



## House OKs Democrats' bill blocking Trump emergency on wall

By ALAN FRAM and AN-DREW TAYLOR

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Democrats ignored a veto threat and rammed legislation through the House Tuesday that would stymie President Donald Trump's bid for billions of extra dollars for his border wall, escalating a clash over whether he was abusing his powers to advance his paramount campaign pledge.

The House's 245-182 vote to block Trump's national emergency declaration fell well below the two-thirds majority that would be needed to override his promised veto. Top Republicans worked to keep defections as low as possible — 13 backed the Democrats' resolution — underscoring their desire to avoid a tally suggesting that Trump's hold on lawmakers

was weakening.

The vote also throws the political hot potato to the Republican-run Senate, where there were already enough GOP defections to edge it to the cusp of passage. Vice President Mike Pence used a lunch with Republican senators at the Capitol to try keeping them aboard, citing a dangerous crisis at the border, but there were no signs he'd succeeded.

"I personally couldn't handicap the outcome at this point," said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., who's planning a vote within the next three weeks. He even said Republicans remained uncertain about the legality of Trump's move, telling reporters, "We're in the process of weighing that."

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House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of Calif., accompanied by Rep. Joaquin Castro, D-Texas, left, and others, speaks about a resolution to block President Donald Trump's emergency border security declaration on Capitol Hill, Monday, Feb. 25, 2019 in Washington.

Associated Press

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## EPA defends enforcement record, despite drop in penalties

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Environmental Protection Agency's enforcement chief on Tuesday defended the Trump administration's work, despite a report by her own agency showing that civil and criminal crackdowns on polluters have dropped sharply in the past two years. Assistant administrator Susan Bodine, who heads the office of enforcement, said the idea that EPA is soft on enforcement is "absolutely not true," adding that the agency is giving states a greater role in regulation



In this May 25, 2017, file photo, the Milton R. Young Station lignite coal-fired power plant near Center, N.D., glows as dusk blankets the North Dakota prairie landscape.

Associated Press

lowest dollar amount since EPA created the enforcement office in 1994, the report showed.

Inspections and evaluations dropped to about 10,600, half the number EPA conducted at its peak in 2010.

Civil investigations carried out by the agency declined to 22 last year, down from 40 in 2017 and 125 in 2016, the last year of the Obama administration.

Criminal fines and restitution tumbled, from \$207 million in 2016 and \$3 billion in 2017, which includes a \$2.8 billion fine against Volkswagen over emissions-rigging in a case initiated under the Obama administration — to \$86 million last year.

Rep. Frank Pallone, who chairs the full energy panel, told Bodine there was "no way to sugarcoat these numbers."

Pallone, D-N.J., said it appears that under Trump, the EPA "is relying on industry to voluntarily come forward and disclose when they are not in compliance" with federal laws.

Pallone scoffed at that idea and said EPA must have a robust enforcement presence, with active inspections and investigations and, where appropriate, referrals to the Justice Department.

Pallone and other Democrats questioned Bodine about reports that EPA has lost 17 percent of its enforcement staff since 2017. Bodine disputed that, saying the agency has 607 enforcement employees of 649 authorized by Congress. □

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and enforcement and stressing education and voluntary compliance by companies.

Bodine told a House subcommittee that a media "narrative" about lax enforcement "discredits the tremendous work of the compliance and assurance staff" at EPA.

"A strong environment program doesn't mean we have to collect a particular dollar amount or pick up a number of penalties," Bodine said.

But Rep. Diana DeGette, D-Colo., said EPA's own statistics show an agency that's "sitting on its hands" and "giving polluters a free pass. And it's putting our health and environment at risk."

When EPA enforcement activities go down, "pollution goes up. That's a fact," said DeGette, who chairs an Energy and Commerce subcommittee on oversight and investigations.

The EPA has been one of the most active agencies in carrying out President Don-

ald Trump's deregulatory goals. Environmental and public-health groups say the business-friendly roll-backs place public health and the environment at greater risk, a claim Democrats repeatedly made at Tuesday's hearing.

The hearing was the first oversight hearing on EPA since Democrats reclaimed the House majority last month.

Congress has enacted a series of laws to protect health and the environment, "and this panel will not sit back and allow this administration to simply ignore those laws," DeGette said. "We expect the EPA to do its job."

The latest numbers from EPA show its overall enforcement activities for 2018 were at historically low levels, according to an agency report earlier this month.

The EPA assessed polluters a total of \$69 million in civil penalties in the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, the



## HOUSE OKS DEMOCRATS

## Continued from Front

Senate passage would force Trump's first veto, which the House vote demonstrated that Congress would surely fail to overturn. But the showdown was forcing Republicans to cast uncomfortable votes pitting their support for a president wildly popular with GOP voters against fears that his expansive use of emergency powers would invite future Democratic presidents to do likewise for their own pet policies.

House Republicans who joined all voting Democrats to support the Democratic resolution included moderates from competitive districts like Fred Upton of Michigan and libertarian-leaning conservatives like Thomas Massie from Kentucky.

The White House wrote to lawmakers formally threatening to veto the legislation. The letter said blocking the emergency declaration would "undermine the administration's ability to respond effectively to the ongoing crisis at the Southern Border."

Republicans said Democrats were driven by politics and a desire to oppose Trump at every turn, and said Trump had clear authority to declare an emergency to protect the country. They also defended the president's claims of a security crisis along the boundary with Mexico, which he has said is ravaged by drug smugglers, human traffickers and immigrants trying to sneak into the U.S. illegally.

"We are at war on the Southern border with the drug cartels," said Rep. Pete Olson, R-Texas.

Trump has asserted that barriers would stop drugs from Mexico from entering the U.S. In fact, government figures show that 90 percent of drugs intercepted from Mexico are caught at ports of entry, not remote areas where barriers would be constructed.

Democrats said Republicans repeatedly accused former President Barack Obama of flouting the Constitution, which gives Congress control over spending, but are ignoring Trump's effort to do the same.

"Is your oath of office to Donald Trump, or is your oath of office to the Constitution?" House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., asked Republicans.

Trump's push for the wall reflected a continuation of the anti-immigrant views that helped fuel his election, some Democrats said. "Since when do we call human beings in need a national emergency?" said Mexican-born Rep. Jesus "Chuy" Garcia, D-Ill. "Is he running out of insults for people like me?"

Democrats also said the crisis is a fiction manufactured by Trump to dance around Congress' vote this month to provide less than \$1.4 billion for barrier construction. That was well below the \$5.7 billion Trump demanded as he futilely forced a record-setting 35-day federal shutdown.

"The president does not get to override Congress in a raucous temper tantrum over his inability to broker a deal" with lawmakers for more money, said Rep. Hank Johnson, D-Ga. Rep. Joaquin Castro, D-Texas, sponsor of the one-sentence measure blocking the declaration, called Trump's move "constitutional vandalism."

Trump used a 1976 law to declare a national emergency and ordered the shift of \$3.6 billion from military construction projects to wall building. Citing other powers, he intends to shift another \$3.1 billion from Defense Department anti-drug efforts and a fund that collects seized assets.

The money would be used to build steel barriers up to 30 feet tall and other barriers and for "law enforcement efforts," said a White House statement.

In the Senate, three Republicans have said they will back Democrats' drive to block the emergency declaration: Maine's Susan Collins, Alaska's Lisa Murkowski and North Carolina's Thom Tillis. One more GOP defection would provide enough votes to approve the Democratic measure, assuming all Democrats and their independent allies back it. Republicans said senators asked Pence numerous questions about which

projects Trump would divert to pay for the wall, with Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., saying the discussion was "hearty." Shelby, who chairs the Senate Appropriations Committee, which controls spending, said his panel would quickly "backfill" money for military construction with other funds he did not identify.

"That issue won't stay alive long," Shelby told reporters. Sen. John Thune of South Dakota, the chief GOP vote counter, said there may be GOP attempts to amend the House measure, saying Republicans "think they have amendments that would improve it."

That suggests that McConnell may try finding a way to add language that could sink the Democratic resolution or, perhaps, make it more palatable for Republicans. The law requires the Senate to vote on a mea-



Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., with, from left, Sens. Todd Young, R-In., Roy Blunt, R-Mo., Barasso, John Thune, R-S.D., Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., and Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, speaks to reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019.

Associated Press

sure within 18 days of receiving it from the House. Though presidents have declared 58 emergencies under the law, this is the first aimed at acquiring money for an item Congress has explicitly refused to finance, according to Eliza-

beth Goitein, co-director for national security at New York University Law School's Brennan Center for Justice. This is also the first time Congress has cast votes on whether to annul an emergency declaration, she said. □

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# The precarious perch of a potential Pentagon chief

By **ROBERT BURNS**

**AP National Security Writer**  
**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Pat-

rick Shanahan, the former Boeing executive, was in a familiar place — aboard an airplane — when he got word of a bolt-from-the-blue political shot across his bow, an apparent blow to his chances of being nominated as the next secretary of defense.

Sen. James Inhofe, the White House-friendly Republican chairman of the committee that would pass judgment on the nomination, was being quoted in news reports as saying he didn't think Shanahan would get the nod, and that Shanahan lacked humility.

Within hours, however, the crisis passed as Inhofe backtracked, insisting he had not meant to say he had a problem with Shanahan. "I like the guy. I would support him" if nominated, Inhofe told The Associated Press.

The episode, which played out while Shanahan was flying from Baghdad to Brussels on his first trip abroad as the acting secretary of defense, highlights the precarious position he occupies while waiting for President Donald Trump to decide who he will nominate as successor to Jim Mattis, the retired Marine general who quit in December after nearly two years of leading the Pentagon.

With no other candidate emerging as the clear front-runner, expectations inside the Pentagon are that Shanahan will soon be nominated and that he likely would win Senate confirmation. He would be the first career defense industry executive to serve as defense secretary.

In the two months he has



In this Feb. 11, 2019, photo, acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan, left, arrives in Kabul, Afghanistan to consult with Army Gen. Scott Miller, right, commander of U.S. and coalition forces, and senior Afghan government leaders.

Associated Press

led the Pentagon, Shanahan has avoided public missteps while handling such politically sensitive issues as sending military reinforcements to the U.S.-Mexico border. Shanahan has a less defined track record on policy issues than Mattis, perhaps giving him a more friction-free start with Trump.

Shanahan, 56, grew up in Seattle. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Washington and two advanced degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He joined Boeing in 1986, rose through its ranks and is credited with rescuing a troubled Dreamliner 787 program. He also led the company's missile defense and military helicopter programs.

Some have questioned whether Shanahan's background amounts to an inherent conflict of interest for a defense secretary presiding over a multi-billion-dollar procurement budget. But Michael O'Hanlon, an analyst at the Brookings Institution, argues

that experience in defense industry issues could work to Shanahan's benefit.

"We need a strong defense industrial base, and so anybody who is reflexively against his association with industry needs to rethink how you build a strong military in a modern society like ours," O'Hanlon said in an interview.

"In the end, I don't expect that to be a huge sticking point" to Senate confirmation, should Shanahan get the nomination, O'Hanlon added.

Although a few members of the Senate have rhetorically roughed up Shanahan, he has not generated broad opposition during two months of auditioning for the nomination. Sen. Lindsey Graham, the South Carolina Republican, has butted heads with Shanahan over the administration's Syria policy, but that confrontation quickly faded after the White House partially reversed course by agreeing to keep a few hundred troops in Syria rather than withdrawing all 2,000.

Sen. Joni Ernst, an Iowa Re-

publican and a member of the Armed Services Committee, has publicly argued for Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson, a former congresswoman from New Mexico, to be defense secretary. Ernst told the AP that if Shanahan gets the nomination she would revisit his background "just to make sure there's no conflict of interest," calling herself undecided.

Sen. Deb Fischer, a Nebraska Republican, called Shanahan "very forthright" but would not say directly whether she thinks he should get the job.

Shanahan was the deputy secretary of defense during Mattis' two-year tenure. No one thought of him then as a potential No. 1; he had never previously served in government and carried little political sway in Washington or in foreign capitals. Aides say that during his 17 months as deputy, Shanahan was deeply engaged in the full range of policy issues and briefed on military operations. He shares Mattis's conviction that the Pentagon needs to shift its focus from fighting insurgent wars to preparing for and deterring armed conflict with big powers like China.

"China, China, China," was his message to senior department officials the day he took over for Mattis, aides said.

Trump installed Shanahan as the acting secretary on Jan. 1 and has since spoken admiringly of him. This is only the third time in history that the Pentagon has been led by an acting chief. The last was William H. Taft, who served for two months in 1989 after President George H.W. Bush's first choice to be defense secretary, John Tower, be-

came mired in controversy and ultimately failed to be confirmed by the Senate. Dick Cheney, the future vice president under President George W. Bush, then was nominated and confirmed.

Presidents typically take pains to ensure the Pentagon is being run by a Senate-confirmed official, given the grave responsibilities that include sending young Americans into battle, ensuring the military is ready for extreme emergencies like nuclear war and managing overseas alliances that are central to U.S. security.

Trump seemed attracted to Shanahan partially for his work on one of the president's pet projects -- creating a Space Force. He also has publicly lauded Shanahan's former employer, Boeing, builder of many of the military's most prominent aircraft, including the Apache and Chinook helicopters, the C-17 cargo plane and the B-52 bomber, as well as the iconic presidential aircraft, Air Force One.

Trump seemed to tire of Mattis' reputation as the administration's moderating influence on national security issues. But when he quit, there was no sudden rush of candidates to fill his shoes.

Shanahan "may be not so bad an option," O'Hanlon said.

"You get a person who's got some of the Mattis world view now inculcated inside of him but without that kind of star power," he added. "That may actually be what Trump wants."

So, whether it's my own recommendation or my own prediction, I see no reason not to lean in Shanahan's favor. □



# Passengers band together on train stuck in Oregon mountains

By ANDREW SELSKY  
Associated Press

**SALEM, Ore. (AP)** — An Amtrak train with almost 200 people aboard hit downed trees during a blizzard and got stranded in the Oregon mountains for a day and a half, but passengers and crew banded together during the ordeal that ended Tuesday.

"It was really nice to meet people pulling together," passenger Tracy Rhodes, of Scottsdale, Arizona, said in a phone interview after the train that had been traveling from Seattle to Los Angeles rolled back into the college town of Eugene, Oregon, with a clanging bell announcing its arrival. Passengers spilled out, some waving their arms high in jubilation.

During the 36 hours that the train was stuck, younger passengers helped older ones reach their families to let them know they were all right, said Rhodes, who was traveling with her brother to visit their 82-year-old mother in Klamath Falls, Oregon. A "mom brigade" was formed to take care of and entertain the children, she said.

"People were being very kind to each other, being friends," Rhodes said. "It restores your faith."

The trouble began Sunday evening, when the double-decker Coast Starlight train struck a tree that had fallen onto the tracks, Amtrak said.

Rhodes said the train stopped suddenly but not violently. She was told the engine hit several snow-laden trees and that one snapped back, damaging a hose assembly providing air pressure for the brakes. The train was repaired enough to move forward a short distance to Oakridge, Oregon, a town 1,200 feet (366 meters) high in the Cascade Range that was dealing with its own problems — a blackout and snow and debris-covered roads.

Railroad officials decided to keep the passengers on board instead of letting them into the town of 3,200 people. The hours ticked



Jordyn Hooper, right, and her four-year-old daughter Quinn Hooper, left, join other passengers as they disembark from an Amtrak train in Eugene, Ore., Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019 after being stranded overnight in the mountains east of town.

Associated Press

by. Some passengers grew impatient.

"This is hell and it's getting worse," Rebekah Dodson posted on Facebook after 30 hours, along with photos of herself and other passengers smiling into the camera.

The train with 183 passengers still had electricity, heat and food. Some people took the long unscheduled stop with a sense of humor.

"The food hoarding has begun. I'm considering saving half my dinner steak and making jerky on the room heater," Rhodes tweeted. She and her brother had sleeping berths.

"We were fed very well. Steak at night, hot breakfast in the morning," she said. Coach passengers were given beef stew with mashed potatoes, she noted.

To pass the time, Rhodes and her brother browsed the internet and played war, speed and cribbage

with cards they bought in the cafe. Others sent images and video of passengers gazing out the window at the snowy landscape or napping to social media.

Amtrak Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Scot Naparstek said the railroad regretted the extended delay.

"With more than a foot of heavy snow and numerous trees blocking the track, we made every decision in the best interest of the safety of our customers," Naparstek said, adding that customers would get refunds and other compensation.

Amtrak spokeswoman Olivia Irvin said weather and track obstructions remained an issue and that the Coast Starlight would run only south of Sacramento until Friday.

The crew of 13 dealt with the situation as best they could. With diapers running short, a worker in the cafe improvised with napkins and safety pins, Rhodes

said.

"People were great. The train crew was amazing," said Marsha Trujillo, from Martinez, California. "They were so professional and so kind. We really wanted for nothing except for maybe someplace comfortable to lie down, and a shower."

The Coast Starlight bills itself on the Amtrak website as

"a grand West Coast train adventure."

"Break free of congested airports and freeways to get up-close-and-personal with America's spectacular West Coast. Hug rocky coastlines, glide beside the majestic Cascade Mountains," the site says.

In this case, however, nature trumped modern human conveyances.

After the train began moving again Tuesday, Dodson posted a video on Facebook admiring the view.

"We are moving and it's totally awesome," she said as trees laden with snow swept past a window. "Isn't it beautiful? I'm so excited." Carly Bigby, a teacher aboard the train, had been visiting Eugene with her fiancé and was trying to figure out how to get back home to Klamath Falls.

"I am exhausted," she told KOIN, a Portland TV station. The highway to Klamath Falls was snowbound and impassable. With no way to reach her mother, Rhodes planned to fly home to Arizona.

"She is definitely disappointed, but is glad we're safe," she said. The train retreated to the north Tuesday afternoon, heading back to Seattle. Some passengers including Rhodes got off in Portland. The train's journey further north was delayed for at least two hours, passengers were told, after a railroad bridge over the Columbia River between Oregon and Washington state caught fire. □

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# United Methodist delegates reject recognizing gay marriage

By DAVID CRARY and JIM SALTER

Associated Press

**ST. LOUIS (AP)** — The United Methodist Church, America's second-largest Protestant denomination, faces a likely surge in defections and acts of defiance after delegates at a crucial conference voted Tuesday to strengthen the faith's divisive bans on same-sex marriage and ordination of LGBT clergy.

Emotions were high throughout the third and final day of the UMC's meeting. Some supporters of greater LGBT inclusion were in tears, while others vented their anger when, midway through the session, delegates defeated a proposal that would have let regional and local church bodies decide for themselves on gay-friendly policies.

"Devastation," was how former Methodist pastor Rebecca Wilson of Detroit described her feelings. "As someone who left because I'm gay, I'm waiting for the church I love to stop bringing more hate."

After several more hours of debate, the conservatives' proposal, called the Traditional Plan, was approved by a vote of 438-384. Opponents unsuccessfully sought to weaken the plan with hostile amendments or to prolong the debate past a mandatory adjournment time set to accommodate a monster truck rally in the arena. One delegate even requested an investigation into the possibility that "vote buying" was taking



Ed Rowe, left, Rebecca Wilson, Robin Hager and Jill Zundel, react to the defeat of a proposal that would allow LGBT clergy and same-sex marriage within the United Methodist Church at the denomination's 2019 Special Session of the General Conference in St. Louis, Mo., Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019.

Associated Press

place at the conference. The Traditional Plan's success was due to an alliance of conservatives from the U.S. and overseas. About 43 percent of the delegates were from abroad, mostly from Africa, and overwhelmingly supported the LGBT bans.

If the bans were eased, "the church in Africa would cease to exist," said the Rev. Jerry Kulah of Liberia. "We can't do anything but to support the Traditional Plan — it is the biblical plan." The deep split within the church was evident in several fiery speeches opposing the Traditional Plan.

"If we bring this virus into our church, it will bring ill-

ness to us all," said the Rev. Thomas Berlin of Herndon, Virginia. He predicted many Methodist churchgoers and some regional bodies would leave the church, while others would "stay and fight," performing same-sex weddings even if it meant punishment.

Many supporters of the more liberal plan stood in support as Berlin spoke. Some wore rainbow-motif garments or sat behind rainbow banners. After the vote, a small group of protesters carried a cross to the stage at the conference and sat around it. Another group of about 200 people staged a peaceful sitdown protest while about

two dozen police officers watched.

The Rev. Allen Ewing-Merrill, a pastor from Portland, Maine, pledged defiance of the Traditional Plan, tweeting: "I will not participate in your bigotry, sin & violence." An association of Methodist theological schools warned that if the Traditional Plan passes, the church "will lose an entire generation of leaders in America." Formed in a merger in 1968, the United Methodist Church claims about 12.6 million members worldwide, including nearly 7 million in the United States. While other mainline Protestant denominations, such as the Episcopal

and Presbyterian (U.S.A.) churches, have embraced gay-friendly practices, the Methodist church still bans them, though acts of defiance by pro-LGBT clergy have multiplied. Many have performed same-sex weddings; others have come out as gay or lesbian from the pulpit of their churches.

Enforcement of the bans has been inconsistent; the Traditional Plan aspires to beef up discipline against those engaged in defiance.

The Rev. Tim Bagwell, 64, pastor at a UMC church in Macon, Georgia, had opposed the Traditional Plan and called the outcome "deeply painful." But he said his church will stay with UMC until at least 2020, when the next major conference is scheduled. He's hopeful new delegates will be elected and change course to a more inclusive church. "I am deeply sad," he said. "The Methodist church has always been mainstream, reaching out to people. This sends a different tone ... one of exclusion, not inclusion."

The Rev. Scott Hagan, 45, a pastor from Bonaire, Georgia, supported the Traditional Plan, saying the liberals' alternative would have sent a mixed message.

"To have each church — possibly in the same town — offering a different perspective and practice would surely be confusing to the public that comes to the church looking for guidance," Hagan said. □

# Utah closer to joining national alcohol levels for beer

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST

Associated Press

**SALT LAKE CITY (AP)** — Utah lawmakers moved closer Tuesday to adopting alcohol levels for beer that are in line with most production-line brews sold around the country, despite opposition from the influential Mormon church.

The state Senate overwhelmingly passed the measure to raise low alcohol limits on Tuesday, though it's expected to face more

opposition at the state House of Representatives. "We still have a ways to go," said Kate Bradshaw, a lobbyist with the Responsible Beer Choice Coalition, a group of manufacturers, distributors and sellers who support the change.

The proposal would increase the alcohol limit from 3.2 percent to 4.8 percent by weight, which would allow most standard beers to be sold in the state. The Church of Jesus Christ

of Latter-day Saints has expressed concern that the increase is too high. Most lawmakers are members of the faith that teaches abstinence from alcohol, and church positions can hold outsized sway. Many local microbreweries also oppose the change.

Still, supporters have included businesses like Wal-Mart, and the change overwhelmingly passed the state Senate. Republican sponsor Sen. Jerry Steven-

son has argued the bill is about commerce rather than alcohol.

"It's a reminder that it is possible to overstate the influence the church has on politics," said Damon Cann, a political science professor at Utah State University. "The church, while clearly formidable as a political foe, is not invincible."

As other states like Oklahoma, Colorado and Kansas shed similar limitations, large brewers have be-

gun to stop making lower-alcohol products, leaving shelves emptier and hurting rural Utah stores that depend on beer revenue, Stevenson has said.

"I'm just excited to see us normalize our alcohol a little bit and I think this will be good for the state of Utah," said Sen. Derek Kitchen, a Democrat who identified himself as one of the handful of state senators who drink. □





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## Mother and adult daughter charged with killing 5 relatives

**MORRISVILLE, Pa. (AP)** — A mother and her adult daughter killed five of their close relatives, including three children, and were found "disoriented" after child welfare authorities arrived for a surprise visit to their trashed apartment outside Philadelphia, police and prosecutors said Tuesday.

Shana Decree, 45, and her daughter Dominique Decree, 19, were charged with five counts of homicide and one count each of conspiracy. The motive and how the five family members died are unclear; their bodies were found Monday night.

"As confusing as it was last night, we are no closer to understanding that in the harsh light of day," Bucks County District Attorney Matthew Weintraub said at a news conference Tuesday. "We will continue to pursue every lead and to work this case to its just conclusion."

The victims were Shana's children, Naa'Irah Smith, 25, and Damon Decree Jr., 13, both of Morrisville; Shana Decree's sister Jamilla Campbell, of Trenton, New Jersey; and Campbell's 9-year-old twin daughters, Imani and Erika Allen.

Authorities discovered the scene after a Bucks County child welfare officer arrived Monday evening for an unannounced visit and was let into the building by someone who works there, according to court papers. Police say they found Shana and Dominique Decree "disoriented" inside the apartment, where furniture

had been turned over, dry-wall was cracked and glass lay around. Police initially said they found four bodies, but they discovered a fifth underneath another that was next to a bed.

The mother and daughter were taken to a hospital and at first told authorities they didn't know what happened.

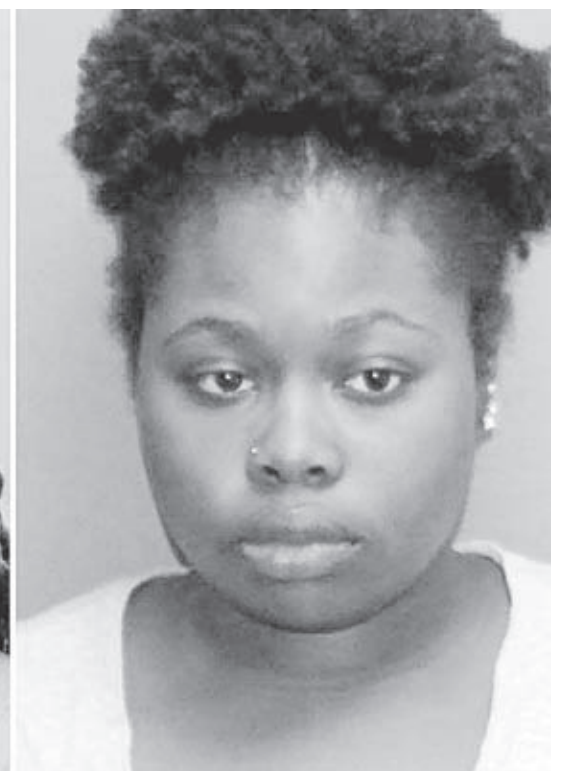
Before telling authorities about their involvement in the slayings, Shana Decree said her sister Jamilla's boyfriend and two unknown men killed the five family members but left Shana and Dominique alive, according to an affidavit.

Shana Decree then told police that "everyone at the apartment ... wanted to die" and talked about suicide, according to court documents. She said that she killed one of the victims, that she and her daughter Dominique killed another together, and that Campbell killed two other victims before she herself was slain by Dominique.

Shana Decree was arraigned early Tuesday, while Dominique Decree was arraigned in the afternoon. It isn't clear whether either woman has a lawyer to speak for her. Court papers show they have not requested a public defender, and no attorney information is listed.

Authorities who had been looking for Campbell's 17-year-old son Joshua found him not far away in Willingboro, New Jersey, where he was staying with friends, Police Chief George McClay said.

Weintraub stressed the




These photos provided by the Bucks County District Attorney's Office on Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019, shows Shana Decree, left, and her teenage daughter Dominique Decree.

Associated Press

teen is not a suspect, saying authorities just wanted to make sure he was safe. The apartments are in Morrisville, which sits on the Delaware River northeast of Philadelphia and across from Trenton, New Jersey. The three-story, red-brick apartment complex is on a busy road lined with auto repair shops, a safe-and-lock shop and a bail bonds agency nearby. Thai Hall, 24, of Bristol, Pennsylvania, said she attended Morrisville High School with Smith and spoke with her about three months ago. Hall, whose mother lives in a neighboring apartment, said Smith was attending cosmetology school. She remembered Smith warmly. "She was a happy person, happy person and cared for people," Hall said. □

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# Brexit: Parliament to decide between no deal and delay

By JILL LAWLESS  
Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — Britain's bumpy journey out of the European Union took a major turn Tuesday, as Prime Minister Theresa May handed the steering wheel to Parliament, giving lawmakers the power to slam on the brakes and divert Britain away from a disruptive and chaotic Brexit.

Bowing to pressure from within her own government to avert a damaging "no-deal" Brexit, May told legislators she would give them three choices: approve the divorce agreement she has struck with the EU, vote to leave the bloc on March 29 without a deal, or ask the EU to delay Brexit by up to three months.

May said the promises were "commitments I am making as prime minister and I will stick by them."

It is the first time she has conceded that Britain may not leave the EU on March 29, the date fixed two years ago and enshrined in U.K. law as departure day.

With that date just over a month away, the government has not been able to win parliamentary approval for its agreement with the EU on withdrawal terms and future relations. Anxiety over the standoff is intensifying since a chaotic "no-deal" Brexit could cause disruptions for businesses and people in both Britain and the 27 remaining EU countries.

May promised lawmakers they would get to vote again on her deal by March 12. If it is rejected, lawmakers will vote the next day on whether to leave the bloc without an agreement. If the no-deal



Demonstrators protest opposite the Houses of Parliament in London, Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019.

Associated Press

option is defeated, they will vote on whether to seek a delay to Brexit.

Because a majority of lawmakers opposes a "no-deal" Brexit, Parliament's choice is effectively between backing May's deal and postponing Britain's departure from the EU.

May said her goal remains to lead Britain out of the EU on schedule and with a deal.

"I don't want to see an extension," she said, adding that any delay to Brexit should be "as short as possible."

But her announcement angered pro-Brexit lawmakers.

"My suspicion is that any delay to Brexit is a plot to stop Brexit," said leading Conservative Brexiteer Jacob Rees-Mogg. "This would be the most grievous error that politicians could commit." Pro-EU politicians, meanwhile, said May's move did not go far enough.

"A temporary extension does not rule out a no-deal Brexit; it merely moves the cliff-edge back a few weeks," said anti-Brexit Conservative Dominic Grieve.

May's concession to Parliament came after members of her government joined calls for her to rule out a "no-deal" departure. Three government ministers wrote in Tuesday's Daily Mail they planned to vote with opposition lawmakers to stop a no-deal withdrawal unless May agreed to delay Brexit and guarantee "we are not swept over the precipice on March 29."

Delaying Brexit would require approval from all 27 other EU countries. European Council President Donald Tusk said Monday the remaining members would "show maximum understanding and goodwill" to such a request.

But some EU leaders say Britain must have a good

reason for seeking the delay.

Philippe Lamberts, an influential member of the European Parliament's Brexit steering group, said a British request for an extension must be accompanied by "a credible plan for holding a people's vote on the final deal that includes an option to remain" in the EU.

Businesses warn that without a deal, Britain risks a chaotic departure that could disrupt trade between the U.K. and the EU, its biggest trading partner. The uncertainty has already led many British firms to shift some operations abroad, stockpile goods or defer investment decisions. Businesses and the markets breathed a sigh of relief at May's statement, which did not rule out "no deal" but at least pushed it a bit further away. The pound rose above \$1.32, its highest level for a month.

"Today, we have seen real

movement towards ruling out a chaotic and damaging no-deal on March 29," said Mike Cherry, national chairman of the Federation of Small Businesses.

But British politics remains deadlocked over Brexit, with both May's governing Conservatives and the main opposition Labour Party deeply split over whether to leave the bloc, and on what terms.

Pro-EU Conservative legislator Ken Clarke said delaying Brexit would not break the logjam, but only see the "present pantomime" continue, with "similar chaos about where we are going."

The House of Commons rejected May's deal with the EU last month — largely over concerns about a provision to guarantee an open border between the U.K.'s Northern Ireland and EU member Ireland — and sent May back to Brussels to get changes.

The EU is adamant that the legally binding withdrawal agreement can't be changed, though the bloc's negotiators are holding talks with U.K. Attorney General Geoffrey Cox about potential tweaks or additions around the margins.

A large group of lawmakers, from both government and opposition parties, says the only way out of the impasse is a new referendum on the terms of Britain's EU departure.

May insists she will never support a referendum that could overturn Britain's 2016 decision to leave the EU.

The Labour Party this week moved to support a new referendum as a way to break the deadlock. □

## Australian Cardinal Pell faces abuse sentencing hearing

Associated Press

**MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)** — The most senior Catholic cleric ever convicted of child sex abuse faces his first night in custody following a sentencing hearing that will decide his punishment for molesting two choirboys in a Melbourne cathedral

two decades ago.

Victoria state County Court jury unanimously convicted Cardinal George Pell in December of abusing the two 13-year-olds in a rear room of St. Patrick's Cathedral in 1996 weeks after becoming archbishop of Australia's second largest city.

But unusually, Pell wasn't taken into custody immediately because he had surgery listed in Sydney to have both knees replaced. Chief Judge Peter Kidd continued Pell's bail until his sentencing hearing on Wednesday, but warned Pell that did not indicate

he would avoid a custodial sentence.

Pope Francis' top financial adviser and the Vatican's economy minister faces a potential 50 years in prison for five convictions of sexual penetration and indecent acts involving the boys. Pell's convictions

and details of his crimes had been suppressed by a court order until Tuesday.

Pell's lawyers have lodged an appeal against his convictions and will apply for bail in the Court of Appeal later Wednesday. No date has been set for an appeal hearing. □



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## Hungary's Orban says EU didn't learn from terror attacks

By PABLO GORONDI  
Associated Press

**BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP)** —

The Hungarian government has expanded its new public campaign accusing European Union leaders of promoting mass migration, sending citizens a letter from the prime minister that warns "the Brussels bureaucrats want to break the resistance of countries opposed to immigration."

In the one-page letter mailed to households in Hungary, Prime Minister Viktor Orban said the EU "has not learned anything from the horrible terror attacks of the past years" and "wants to bring even more migrants to Europe" through new measures now under development.

A separate sheet mailed with the note listed seven alleged EU policies that Or-



Katalin Cseh, right, of the Momentum opposition party helps to place a sticker saying "Every sixth Hungarian child is born abroad."

Associated Press

ban claimed encourage migration. They include weakening member states'

rights to border protection; giving more money to "political activist groups"

that support migration; cutting financial assistance to countries viewed as anti-

migration; and giving migrants prepaid bank cards. "We want to defend our security and our Christian culture," Orban said, alleging that "to attain their objective" the EU wants to crack down on countries like Hungary that have resisted taking in asylum-seekers.

The European Commission's Hungarian office issued a detailed rebuttal of Orban's claims. It denied the EU wants to cut financial assistance to countries where the governments have made it known migrants are not welcome or welcomed only under narrow circumstances.

The rebuttal also said prepaid bank cards were being used only in Greece to support the integration of refugees and asylum-seekers, not to encourage immigration. □

## Germany: Ex-Sig Sauer executives on trial over Colombia sale

Associated Press

**BERLIN (AP)** — Three former executives of German gun maker Sig Sauer went on trial Tuesday in Germany on suspicion of illegally selling firearms to Colombia by funneling them through a U.S. sister company.

The trial in the northern city of Kiel centers on 180 shipments of semi-automatic SP 2022 pistols transferred from Sig Sauer's factory in Germany to its New Hampshire affiliate from 2009 to 2011.

Prosecutors claim that more than 38,000 of the 47,000 pistols shipped to the United States were subsequently forwarded to Colombia, in breach of the export license issued by

German authorities.

Sig Sauer denies skirting German arms trade restrictions, saying it acted legally when it shipped the guns to the U.S. Prosecutors charge that the company knew where the shipment would eventually end up.

At the time the weapons were sent to Colombia, the Latin American nation's security forces were engaged in a decades-long conflict with guerrilla groups.

Kiel court spokeswoman Rebekka Kleine said judges, prosecutors and defense lawyers discussed Tuesday whether there can be a settlement in the case. Under German law, such a move wouldn't require the defendants to make a

plea.

An announcement on a possible settlement is expected when the trial resumes Wednesday.

In a separate case last week, a German court gave two former employees of gun maker Heckler & Koch suspended sentences for their role in the delivery of thousands of firearms that ended up in troubled areas of Mexico, and ordered the confiscation of proceeds from the sales totaling some 3.7 million euros (\$4.2 million).

Peace campaigners in Germany have long tried to curb the sale of German weapons abroad.

A report Tuesday by public broadcaster Deutsche



This Thursday, Jan. 14, 2016, file photo shows the sign at the entrance to the headquarters of Sig Sauer, a gun manufacturer based in Newington, N.H.

Associated Press

Welle found evidence that German military equipment is being used by the Saudi Arabia-led coalition in Ye-

men. Germany recently stopped issuing licenses for arms exports to Saudi Arabia. □



# India strikes inside Pakistan after deadly Kashmir attack

By RIAZ KHAN

**BALAKOT, Pakistan (AP)** —

A pre-dawn airstrike inside Pakistan that India said targeted a terrorist training camp and killed a "very large number" of militants ratcheted up tensions on Tuesday between the two nuclear-armed rivals at odds over the disputed territory of Kashmir.

Islamabad said there were no casualties in the strike near the town of Balakot, close to the border with Pakistan's sector of Kashmir, where residents said loud explosions woke them up, rattling their homes.

"It was the middle of the night, we were very scared," one resident, 20-year old Mohammad Abbas told The Associated Press. "We didn't think for a moment that it was from planes but the explosions were very powerful."

Pakistan's military cordoned off the area and kept reporters about a kilometer (half a mile) from the bombing site.

The airstrike was the latest escalation since a deadly suicide bombing in India's



Pakistani Kashmir lawyers hold banners during a protest in Muzafarabad, capital of Pakistani Kashmir, Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019.

Associated Press

section of Kashmir earlier this month killed more than 40 Indian soldiers. Pakistan has denied involvement in the attack but vowed to respond to any Indian military operation against it.

Kashmir is split between the two countries but claimed by each in its entirety. The Pakistan-based militant

group Jaish-e-Mohammad claimed responsibility for the bombing. The bomber, who made a video before the attack, was a resident of Indian-controlled sector of Kashmir.

Pakistan's military spokesman, Maj. Gen Asif Ghafoor, said Indian planes crossed into the Muzafar-

abad sector of Pakistani-controlled Kashmir. He said Pakistan scrambled fighters and the Indian jets "released payload in haste" near Balakot.

India's foreign secretary, Vijay Gokhale, told reporters in New Delhi that Indian fighter jets targeted Jaish-e-Mohammad camps in a pre-emptive strike after intelligence indicated another attack was being planned.

"Acting on intelligence, India early today struck the biggest training camp of Jaish-e-Mohammad in Balakot," he said. "In this operation a very large number of Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorists, trainers, senior commanders and jihadis being trained ... were eliminated." Balakot police chief Saghir Hussain Shah said he had sent teams to the area where the Indian bombs reportedly hit, which he described as a mostly deserted wooded area. "There are no casualties, there are no damages on the ground," he said.

There was no immediate explanation for the differing accounts, but India and Pakistan routinely contradict one another.

The Feb. 14 attack in Indian-ruled Kashmir was the worst attack on Indian forces since the start of the 1989 insurgency in Kashmir and came as Indian Prime

Minister Narendra Modi is in the middle of a re-election campaign.

Addressing a rally of former soldier's in the Indian state of Rajasthan hours after the airstrike, Modi said India was in "safe hands."

"I vow that I will not let the country bow down," he said.

China, a close ally of Pakistan, urged both sides to show restraint.

"We hope that both India and Pakistan can ... take actions that will help stabilize the situation in the region and help to improve mutual relations," said China's Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang.

Insurgents in the Indian-controlled Kashmir have been demanding either outright independence or union with Pakistan. India routinely accuses Pakistan of arming and training militants who cross the mountainous Himalayan region. Kashmir has been the cause of two wars between the uneasy neighbors. They fought a third war in 1979 over East Pakistan, which gained independence with the help of India and became Bangladesh.

Pakistan has outlawed Jaish-e-Mohammad and seized its properties in south Punjab's Bawalpur area, including religious schools and mosques. India has demanded that Jaish-e-Mohammad's leader, Azhar Masood, be listed as a terrorist by the United Nations, but has been stymied by China.

Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi condemned Tuesday's incursion, saying New Delhi had "endangered" peace in the region for political gains.

Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan dismissed India's account of bombing a terrorist training camp as "self-serving, reckless and fictitious." Earlier this month, Khan had authorized the army to "respond decisively and comprehensively to any aggression or misadventure" by India, after New Delhi vowed a "jaw-breaking response" to the Kashmir suicide bombing. □

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# Trump, Kim facing big issues after big welcome in Hanoi

By FOSTER KLUG  
JONATHAN LEMIRE  
Associated Press

**HANOI, Vietnam (AP)** —

After long journeys to Vietnam, U.S. President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un are in place for their second summit to address perhaps the world's biggest security challenge: Kim's pursuit of a nuclear program that stands on the verge of realistically threatening targets around the planet.

Although many experts are skeptical Kim will give up the nuclear weapons he likely sees as his best guarantee of continued rule, there was a palpable, carnival-like excitement among many in Hanoi as the final preparations were made for the meeting. There were also huge traffic jams in the already congested streets.

The two leaders are to meet over two days, first at dinner on Wednesday followed by meetings on Thursday.

Trump arrived late Tuesday in Air Force One after a flight that included refueling stops in England and Qatar. He shook hands with dignitaries on a red carpet that was flanked by members of the Vietnamese armed forces dressed in crisp white uniforms. The route to his hotel was decorated with American, North Korean and Vietnamese flags, and adults and children peered out upper floor windows holding up cellphones to capture Trump's arrival.

"Tremendous crowds, and so much love!" the U.S. president tweeted.

Kim's journey to the summit, though shorter, was even more protracted. To get to Hanoi, he took a nearly 70-hour train ride through southern China



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un waves upon arrival by train in Dong Dang in Vietnamese border town Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019, ahead of his second summit with U.S. President Donald Trump.

Associated Press

and then traveled from a Vietnamese border town in his limousine. Hours ahead of his border crossing at Dong Dang, footage from Japanese TV network TBS showed Kim taking a pre-dawn smoke break at a train station in China, a woman who appeared to be his sister, Kim Yo Jong, holding a crystal ashtray at the ready.

In Hanoi, soldiers, police and international journalists thronged the streets outside his hotel and hundreds of eager citizens stood behind barricades hoping to see the North Korean leader. As flags from the three countries fluttered in a chilly drizzle, dozens of cameras flashed and some citizens screamed and used their mobile phones to capture Kim's rock-star-like arrival.

"I like him," local resident Van Dang Luu, who works at a nearby bank, said of Kim. "He is very young and he is very interesting. And he is very powerful," she said. "Trump is not young,

but I think he is very powerful."

Kim ventured out of his locked-down hotel and spent Tuesday traveling around the Vietnamese capital in his armored limousine. With a squad of bodyguards in tow, he visited sections of Hanoi, including his nation's embassy where a loud cheer went up as he entered the compound.

The leaders first met last June in Singapore, a summit that was long on historic pageantry but short on any enforceable agreements for North Korea to give up its nuclear arsenal.

North Korea has spent decades, at great economic sacrifice, building its nuclear program, and there is widespread skepticism among experts that it will give away that program cheaply.

Trump laid out ultimate goals for both the U.S. and Kim in an appearance before the nation's governors Monday before leaving

a timeline for disarmament. Kim is seeking relief from crushing U.S. sanctions.

Even as he tamped down expectations that he'll achieve big strides toward denuclearization, Trump was still eager to claim an attention-grabbing victory to offset the political turmoil he faces at home.

That eagerness for a victory, however, has spawned worries across world capitals about what Trump might be willing to give up in the name of a win. There seems less mystery about his North Korean counterpart. Survival of the Kim regime is always the primary concern. Trump was the driving force behind this week's summit, aiming to re-create the global spectacle of his first meeting with Kim last year. Four main goals emerged from the first Trump-Kim summit: establishing new relations between the nations, building a new peace on the entire Korean Peninsula, completing denuclearization of the peninsula and recovering U.S. POW/MIA remains from the Korean War. □

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# New peace talks in Nicaragua raise hopes, but many skeptical

By GABRIELA SELSER

Associated Press

MANAGUA, Nicaragua

(AP) — A resumption of talks over Nicaragua's political standoff has raised hopes among those who believe it could help resolve the nearly year-old crisis and also caused some division among opponents to Daniel Ortega, with some saying they fear it could give "oxygen" to the embattled president.

The Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference has said it will participate as an observer in the talks that open Wednesday, while the government has yet to say whether Ortega or his wife, the powerful Vice President Rosario Murillo, will take part.

Nor has a time or location been made public, though speculation has centered on the headquarters of the Central American Institute for the Administration of Businesses, about 10 miles (15 kilometers) south of the capital, Managua. It's a school where young people receive business training, and student leaders sought refuge from police there during 2018's deadly protests.

"We are all going to meet in reconciliation and in affection," Murillo said Monday



In this Sept. 5, 2018 file photo, the President of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega and his wife and Vice-President Rosario Murillo preside a rally in Managua, Nicaragua.

Associated Press

in one of her frequent appearances on official television. The official website El 19 said the talks would be between the government and the private business sector.

Ortega, a 73-year-old former guerrilla, announced last week that negotiations would take place "to consolidate peace," and the opposition group Civic Alliance said soon after that its

delegation would comprise six businesspeople, two students, two academics, a politician and a feminist lawyer.

But that brought criticism from others in the opposition, in part because it did not include a farmworkers' movement that supported the student protests last year. Three of its leaders were given lengthy prison sentences related to their

rural protests the same day Ortega announced the talks.

Other criticisms called for greater participation by students and women — the lawyer and one of the students are the only female opposition representatives to the talks, and both of them substitutes.

The opposition coalition said it will have four primary demands: the release of

some 770 people it considers political prisoners; restoration of media freedoms following a crackdown on journalists and outlets critical of the president; electoral reform and an earlier date for elections now scheduled for 2021; and a plan to seek justice for protesters killed in the government crackdown, who number about 325 according to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

Those demands are widely shared across the opposition spectrum, but many say they should be preconditions for sitting down with the government rather than points of negotiation. "Public freedoms and human rights are nonnegotiable," Vilma Nunez, president of the Nicaraguan Center for Human Rights and a former official in Ortega's first Sandinista government from 1979 to 1990, told The Associated Press. "The government must respect them because they are principles established in the constitution."

"You have to give the dialogue a chance, but we have our reservations," she continued. "I think the Alliance acted hastily by accepting a negotiation, and that creates suspicions." □

# Attack on Argentine chief rabbi raises fear of anti-Semitism



In this Nov. 08, 2018 photo, distributed by the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association, AMIA, the chief rabbi of Argentina, Gabriel Davidovich, speaks at the AMIA Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Associated Press

By ALMUDENA CALATRAVA  
Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina  
(AP) — A attack that badly injured Argentina's chief

rabbi has alarmed authorities both in the South American nation and in Israel, who raised concerns on Tuesday that it could have

been prompted by anti-Semitism.

Several assailants entered the Buenos Aires home of Rabbi Gabriel Davidovich on Monday and beat him after shouting, "We know you are the rabbi of the AMIA," referring to the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association, one of the country's most prominent Jewish groups, which reported details of the attack.

Davidovich was in a hospital Tuesday with several broken ribs and a punctured lung. The assailants also took money and some belongings, according to the AMIA.

Argentine President Mauricio Macri sent a tweet repudiating the attack and vowing aid to find the at-

tackers. His human rights secretary, Claudio Avruj, said that Argentina needs to build a society "where there are no signs of anti-Semitism, and we cannot be indifferent."

Israeli President Reuven Rivlin phoned Davidovich "to find out how you are and to express my concern about the safety of the large Jewish community you lead," according to a statement from his office.

"The State of Israel will do everything necessary to protect Jews wherever they choose to live and will take any steps to protect us from danger. We will not allow those who seek our harm us to pursue us," he added.

Prime Minister Benjamin

Netanyahu also expressed wishes for the rabbi's recovery, saying, "We must not let anti-Semitism rear its head. I strongly condemn the recent acts of anti-Semitism and call on the international community to take action against it."

Davidovich, 62, has been the chief rabbi for Argentina's extensive Jewish community since 2013, working at the AMIA headquarters building that itself was the target of the country's worst terrorist attack in 1994 — a bombing that killed 85 people and injured hundreds. Prosecutors have blamed on officials of the Iranian government, which has denied involvement and refused to turn over suspects. □



## LOCAL



## Renaissance Aruba Resort hosts traditional Carnival party for the mentally challenged



ORANJESTAD— Last Friday the Foundation for the Mentally handicapped 'Stichting Verstandelijk Gehandicapten Aruba' (SVGA) celebrated their carnival party for the 19th consecutive year at the Renaissance Aruba Resort, which is now part of Wind Creek Hospitality. A total of 325 people including children, adults and coaches took part in this celebration. Renaissance Conventon Center took care of the decorations and catering for the party.

"Every year we take time to celebrate with



the children and this year was no exception", says Mr. Gielen, General Manager of the Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino and Wind Creek Hospitality. "We believe in inclusion." This is the 19th year in which the foundation SVGA celebrates at the Renaissance with all their clients singing and dancing without making distinction. This is a good example for the entire community.

Mr. Gielen also received a special gift from the foundation as thank you for the support they have received for all these years. □

## The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island

ORANJESTAD — Recently, Kimberley Richardson of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Distinguished Visitor. The Distinguished visitor certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba 10 years and more consecutively.

The honorees were the lovely couple **William and Nicola Kale** together with **Dylan Vanco** all from USA!

These wonderful people stated that they love the island very much, especially for the year-round sunny weather, nice sandy beaches, its safety, the delicious variety of foods and Aruba's warm and friendly people.

Ms. Richardson together with the representatives of the Renaissance Ocean Suites presented the certificate to the honorees, and also handed over some presents and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home away from home. □





## Ray Ellin, comedian, host and producer: 'It Feels Good'



By Linda Reijnders

**"It feels good to make others feel good."** Ray Ellin is a kind of half Aruban so to speak. Well, he lives here almost half the year and his nickname is Aruba Ray. The American comedian, host and producer lives the other half of the year in New York. He just finished producing the first season of a television show for Comedy Central called **"This Week at the Comedy Cellar"** (Ray was one of the Executive Producers), which was extremely successful. Here at One Happy Island he created, produced, and hosts a very successful nightly live stand-up comedy show through his company **Aruba Ray's Comedy**, which is at the Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino. The comedy show is rated as Number One on TripAdvisor in three different categories, including **'Best Nightlife Activity.'** The comedy shows have been entertaining people for five years. Today was curious about the man behind the laughs.

"I really think I became the number 1 ambassador for Aruba in the States. When I am on different TV shows like on NBC and Fox I always talk about Aruba. I love it, it's a part of my soul." He wants people to know how much he loves the island and does the best he can to promote it. He also brings big name comics here that are followed by many, many people. He takes the comedians around to show them the

Aruba outside the resort. Ray is happy here, during the day enjoying his Aruba and during his shows in the evenings making people laugh. "It is a great feeling, a positive affirmation. You know that you make other people feel good and that makes you feel good. There is just one big positive vibe in the room. Of course that feeds your ego. It's great energy."

### Big Names

The comedians he brings here are not just any names. They are very experienced, very talented performers, who have been on dozens of tv shows and movies. This run of shows will include Chuck Nice, Christine Hurley, Tony V, Pete Lee, Judy Gold, Mike Vecchione, Robert Kelly, Ricky Velez, Chloe Hilliard, Brian Scott McFadden, Rachel Feinstein, and Dan Natur-

man will climb the stage. And of course, the shows are hosted by Ray himself. These shows have become THE MOST popular thing to do at night in Aruba – it is rated Number One on Trip Advisor in three different categories. You are almost guaranteed to laugh your heart out.

### Little Ray

"When I was 11 years old, I used to watch Saturday Night Live and also the Tonight Show. When I was nine I vividly remember watching SNL and thought: what is this, this is great." Little Ray made kids laugh in school, as well as relatives when he was only 3 or 4 years old. "I got that from my mother, I would see her entertaining people in our house when I was a kid. She is very outgoing and funny, and a classical pianist, so I kind of picked stuff up from



her. It was positive and fun, I loved it." He told his dad that he wanted to be a comedian, and of course he was not too wild about the idea. "But I told him: this is what I want to do. It was very clear to me. My first performance was when I was 11 years old, during 6th grade graduation, and it went well. After that I did standup at summer camp and school talent shows." When he was 15 years old, Ray performed at nightclubs in Boston. He would take the train by himself to downtown Boston to comedy clubs in pretty terrible neighborhoods. "One was in a neighborhood called 'The Combat Zone.' A fifteen year old had no business being there," he laughs. He kept performing, and got better and better, determined in following his passion.

Ray studied Film at College and after that he moved to New York City. He acted in many tv commercials, a few films, hosted several tv shows, and was asked to produce a comedy tour with Latino comedians throughout the States. "That gave me the idea of making the movie. I produced and directed 'The Latin Legends of Comedy' which I financed with 6 credit cards. While I was in the middle of making the film, someone called to tell me that only 2 or 3 percent of all movies that are made end up being sold. But fortunately, I sold it to 20th Century Fox. During the opening weekend, the film finished third in per-screen average behind Oscar winners The Last King of Scotland and The Queen." The success of the film was meant to be: "I was at this film festival, and the oth-

er film makers all brought large support staffs. I was sitting in an office in the hotel alone, cutting my movie promo flyers by hand. They were just terrible. The other movies had beautiful posters, I had these lousy paper flyers. A week after the festival a guy called me from a movie studio: "Can you send me a copy of your movie. I picked up your flyer at the festival and I thought it looked interesting". You never know where the magic might occur!" Ray laughs out loud. Before Ray had his successes, he had day jobs like bartending and waiting tables. He even sold uniforms to mailmen, did all kinds of jobs while in the evenings he performed in different comedy clubs in New York. He found Aruba after finishing working on a tv show: "I hosted the talk show LateNet for a while, a live show for the internet, which was way ahead of its time. People called in from all over the world to interact with my guests, who were big big stars. It did really well, was fun, got a lot of great press and amazing guests. After that show finished I needed a break, and ended up having a trip to Aruba. I fell in love with Aruba, and that is where this journey started."

**The Aruba Ray's Comedy Shows have started again with shows until April 3rd (some days are off, check the schedule at [www.ArubaComedy.com](http://www.ArubaComedy.com)). Curious about Ray and his fellow comedians? Visit the show and let your smiles flow. To Ray it is all clear: "If I am not on stage for a week I feel weird, it's a part of my system. Eating, breathing, performing."** □





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For today's newspaper we received a great picture from:

*For today's newspaper we received a lovely picture from Barry Robb from Steubenville, Ohio. He wrote:*

**Aruba to me is...  
Peace of Mind! ☐**





## It's Carnival!

**ORANJESTAD** — While the official opening of the carnival season took off with the Torch Parade at January 5, the island caught the carnival fever and since then entered a series of carnival events that go on until March 3.

### History

In the 1920's the first carnival events were organized by social clubs that started private costume and masquerade parties. This year we celebrate Aruba's 65th carnival, which means that the first grand parade took place in 1955. Since then Aruba's carnival has grown big and is now



able to stand shoulder to shoulder with the most renowned Carnival celebrations around the world. Aruba Today has put the coming carnival events for you in a row:

- February 28 – Lighting Parade in San Nicolas – 8:00 PM
- March 1 — Hebbe Hebbe Music Festival parking lot Post Office – 8:00 PM
- March 2 – Grand Carnival Parade in San Nicolas – 10:00 AM
- March 3 – 65th Grand Carnival Parade in Oranjestad – 10:00 AM
- March 3 – Burning of King Momo (ending of Grand Parade) 8:00 PM

For more information you can visit Facebook page SMAC, the official carnival organization.

## Tickle your Taste Buds with Tierra del Sol



**NOORD** — There is a place on the Northern part of the island that makes up for your perfect dream night. The location: the island's rugged north coast and blue ocean forming your panoramic from Tierra del Sol's restaurant, either from the poolside outdoor terrace or from the elegant indoor restaurant. The offering: From breakfast to dinner excellent cuisine, friendly service, and a gorgeous setting, but now even more special with the NEW 'All You Can Taste' concept – on from Tuesdays to Saturdays from 6PM – 10PM.

Tune in for an experience that will give dining another perspective. We are not talking about the standard 3-course menu, but about a journey through taste-land. The Restaurant at Tierra del Sol invites you to taste as many tapa-sized items as you wish from their extensive fine dining menu.

Fresh Oysters, Tuna Crab Duo, Bruchetta Caprese, Portobello Mushroom, Smoked Beef Tataki or Chicken Curry Waldorf Salad are only some of the welcoming dishes. For the main courses



you can decide for Skirt Steak, Duck Venison Duo or Pumpkin Risotto among others and to top it off with a sweet surrender a Duo of Quesillo & Brownie, Melon Martini or Cheesecake are one of the choices.

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<https://www.tierradelsol.com/dining/>

Phone: (+297) 586-7800 Ext. 231

Email: [restaurant@tierradelsol.com](mailto:restaurant@tierradelsol.com)

Tuesday – Saturday 8:00am – 10:00pm

Sunday 11:00am – 3:00pm





## Today's Happening



# A weekly calendar with a selection of what's going on in Aruba



### Wednesday 27 Movie Night & Discussion

- United Farmers Aruba will present their first Movie & Discussion night. The topic of this event will be: WATER. Don't miss the opportunity in this magnificent exchange of knowledge
- From 7:30 PM till 10:00 PM
- The Ballroom, De La Sallestraat 26, Oranjestad
- Facebook United Farmers Aruba

### Thursday 28 Lighting Parade in San Nicolas

- Head up to San Nicolas to experience the Carnival by Night. Lights, colors, music, ambience is what this is all about!
- From 8:00 PM till 2:00 AM
- Starts at Joe Laveist Sportpark
- Facebook SMAC



### Sunday 3 65th Grand Carnival Parade

- It's the last and biggest parade for this Carnival Season. The streets of Oranjestad will be filled with colorful costumes, road pieces, creativity, music and artistic masterpieces.
- From 12:00 PM till 6:00 PM
- Starts at Aruba Entertainment in Dakota and ends in front of the Cruise Terminal, Downtown
- Facebook clickcarnaval.com

### Monday 4 Hai Kobe

- The only Kobe Steak on the island is served at L.G. Smith restaurant, the famous Japanese steak known for its flavor, tenderness and well-marbled texture.
- From 6 PM
- Oranjestad, Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino
- Facebook L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House



### Fridays we do Aruban Nights!

6PM-10PM

Aruban Cuisine by our Executive Chef Anelotte Ellis

### Friday 1 Aruban Night

- Head up to San Nicolas for the • Experience Aruba's Culture; great Ambiance, extraordinary Music and sublime Food and Drinks at the restaurant at The Mill Resort
- From 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
- The Mill Resort & Suites
- Facebook The Mill Resort & Suites



### Saturday 2 Aruba Ray's Comedy

- Comedians show with stars from America's Got talent, Tonight Show & Comedy Central
- From 8.30 PM
- Marriot Resort & Stellaris Casino
- Facebook Aruba Ray's Comedy

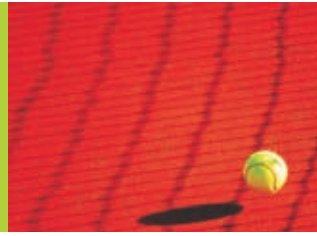


### Tuesday 5 Bon Bini Festival

- The Bon Bini Festival is serving Aruba with year round folkloric event you can also enjoy different authentic Aruban plates
- From 7 PM till 8:30 PM
- Fort Zoutman, Historical Museum, Oranjestad
- Facebook Bon Bini Festival



# SPORTS



Miami Marlins Chief Executive Officer Derek Jeter looks on during the first full-squad spring training workout on Monday, Feb. 18, 2019, in Jupiter, Fla.

Associated Press

## Marlins take leadership role in teaching players Spanish

By STEVEN WINE  
AP Sports Writer  
JUPITER, Fla. (AP) — New Miami Marlins catcher Jorge Alfaro showed up for the team's first full-squad spring training workout wearing a T-shirt that read, "I talk (trash) about you in Spanish," with a word more pungent and less publishable than "trash." The Marlins' English speakers are onto him. At the behest of CEO Derek Jeter, the Marlins last year began Spanish language classes for coaches, and the program has since been expanded throughout the organization, from media relations to analytics to the front office. Now minor league players who speak English are being taught Spanish, while Spanish-speakers learn English — part of a trend in Major League Baseball toward more bilingual teams.

Continued on Page 23



## 30-NOTHING

### Harden's 30-point streak ends as Rockets beat Hawks 119-111

Houston Rockets guard James Harden (13) drives to the basket as Atlanta Hawks center Dewayne Dedmon (14) defends during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Feb. 25, 2019, in Houston.

Associated Press  
Page 20



## Bad timing: Women's WCup downhill result amended 3 days on

GENEVA (AP) — Call it a case of bad timing, in Switzerland of all places.

In a nation renowned for precision clocks and Alpine skiing, Swiss timekeepers of a World Cup race got things so wrong that the results of a women's downhill had to be altered three days after it was run — with two skiers knocked off the podium as a result.

The fiasco stemmed from faulty finish-line timing, which had already caused organizers to amend the results list once on Saturday shortly after the race ended.

Having to change it a second time left both the International Ski Federation (FIS) and Swiss Timing — the sports industry leader tied to luxury watch brands Longines and Omega, the Olympic Games timekeeper — facing criticism and ridicule from some athletes. "Is FIS a joke?????" French skier Julien Lizeroux wrote on Twitter after seeing the revised result.

The governing body accepted its share of the blame Tuesday in a statement confirming the amended result.

"FIS and Swiss Timing would like to apologize to all competitors, teams, media and Alpine Skiing followers for this unfortunate incident," the Switzerland-based organization said.

The problems started on a sunbathed Saturday morning at Crans-Montana when the electronic clock failed to stop for four racers crossing the finish line.

The four — all Swiss, wearing start bib numbers 2, 6, 12 and 27 — were all later given times calculated manually.

While the race winner, Olympic champion Sofia Goggia of Italy, was unaffected by the problems, Swiss racers Joana Hahlen and Lara Gut-Behrami were initially placed second and fourth, respectively.

Soon after the race ended — and third-place Nicole Schmidhofer of Austria had taken part in a finish-area ceremony — new manual times were given to Hae-

hlen, who was still second, and Gut-Behrami, who was upgraded to third.

But between Saturday and Tuesday, and after an Austrian team objection, the manual times were re-evaluated and found to be wrong.

FIS said Tuesday that recalculating the four Swiss racers' runs had now added 0.13 seconds to their new times, dropping Hahlen and Gut-Behrami dropped to fourth and sixth. For Hahlen, that meant losing her first career podium finish.

Schmidhofer rose from fourth to runner-up, and extended her points lead in the World Cup downhill standings with two races remaining.

Another Swiss who was timed electronically, world championships silver medalist Corinne Suter, rose from fourth to third.

Organizers said the equipment failure was in part due to the warm weather that had caused the fast-softening snow to melt.

"The reason that the four times were not recorded was as a consequence of the set-up of the photo cells at the finish, which were mounted too high," FIS said. "After two training days the snow level was somewhat lower due to the multiple runs and slipping on the course, as well as melting due to the sunlight."

"Swiss Timing has since checked the timing tapes and recalculated all the manual times from the race using the correct methodology." Swiss Timing is run by Switzerland-based Swatch Group, and brands World Cup ski races with the Longines name.

On its website, Swiss Timing states: "We are committed to the art of measuring times with precision and reliability using the technologies we have developed to meet the most exacting of standards in every sport." Race organizers at Crans-Montana, who had no say in choosing the timekeeping operation, must hope the debacle is not bad timing for its bid to host the 2025 world championships.



Women Downhill winners pose on the podium, with from left, second placed Joana Hahlen of Switzerland, winner Sofia Goggia of Italy and third placed Lara Gut-Behrami of Switzerland, celebrate during the winner's ceremony after the women's Downhill race of the FIS Alpine Ski World Cup season in Crans-Montana, Switzerland, Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019.

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# Harden's streak of 30-point games ends in win over Hawks

By The Associated Press

**HOUSTON (AP)** — James Harden scored 28 points, ending his 32-game streak with at least 30, and the Houston Rockets beat the Atlanta Hawks 119-111 on Monday night.

Houston overcame a career-high eight 3-pointers from Hawks rookie Trae Young, who put up 36 points.

Harden returned after missing Saturday's win over Golden State with a neck injury. His run of games with 30 or more points was the second-longest in NBA history behind a 65-game streak by Wilt Chamberlain. Harden, who said he was still bothered by the neck problem Monday morning, missed all 10 3-pointers he attempted. He got to 28 points with 23.3 seconds left and had the ball on Houston's last possession but did not attempt a shot from half court with the game in hand.

Harden last came up short of 30 points in a Dec. 11 win over Portland, when he had 29. During the streak, he scored 50 or more points four times, including a career-high 61 in a win at the Knicks on Jan. 23.

Chris Paul added 20 points, and Eric Gordon hit four 3-pointers for 16 points.

## **SUNS 124, HEAT 121**

**MIAMI (AP)** — Devin Booker scored 20 points to lead seven Phoenix players in double figures, and the Suns snapped a club-record 17-game losing streak. Former Heat guard Tyler Johnson scored 18 points for Phoenix. Jamal Crawford and Kelly Oubre Jr. each had 16 and were huge down the stretch for Phoenix, which scored 40 points in the fourth quarter. Deandre Ayton and Troy Daniels each had 14, and Josh Jackson scored 11 for the Suns.

Hassan Whiteside scored 29 points and Kelly Olynyk added 28 for the Heat, who have dropped six straight at home for the second time this season.

## **WARRIORS 121, HORNETS 110**

**CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)** — Klay Thompson scored 26



Houston Rockets guard James Harden (13) dribbles as Atlanta Hawks forward DeAndre' Bembry defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Feb. 25, 2019, in Houston.

Associated Press

points, DeMarcus Cousins had 24 points and 11 rebounds, and Golden State dealt Charlotte its second straight loss.

The Warriors took a 1½-game lead over the Denver Nuggets in the race for the best record in the Western Conference. Golden State dropped its previous game, a home loss against Houston on Saturday night. Kevin Durant had 20 points and seven rebounds for the Warriors, who have not lost back-to-back games since Dec. 27. It was an off night for Stephen Curry in his return to his hometown, finishing with 16 points on 4-of-14 shooting from 3-point range.

Cody Zeller made 13 of 14 shots from the field and finished with a career-high 28 points to lead the Hornets.

## **NETS 101, SPURS 85**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — D'Angelo Russell had 23 points, eight assists and seven rebounds, and Brooklyn forced San Antonio into perhaps its worst offensive performance of the season.

A night after their defense was absent in a loss to the Knicks, the Spurs couldn't get their offense going. San

Antonio was held to its lowest point total of the season, and the NBA's leading 3-point shooting team at 40 percent was a season-worst 16.7 percent behind the arc.

That sent the Spurs to a third straight loss.

Joe Harris and Caris LeVert each added 15 points for the Nets, who made 19 3-pointers.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 26 points and 10 rebounds, and DeMar DeRozan added 23 points for the Spurs.

## **PISTONS 113, PACERS 109**

**DETROIT (AP)** — Andre Drummond had 26 points and 16 rebounds, Blake Griffin had a triple-double and resurgent Detroit won for the seventh time in eight games.

Griffin had 20 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists for Detroit, which is battling for a playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

Indiana lost for only the second time in 10 games. Pacers center Myles Turner returned after missing two games with a bruised left hip. He scored seven points. Domantas Sabonis scored 23 for Indiana, but he appeared to injure

his left ankle with just over a minute remaining. Bojan Bogdanovic scored 25 points.

## **TRAIL BLAZERS 123, CAVALIERS 110**

**CLEVELAND (AP)** — CJ McCollum scored 35 points and Portland hung on after nearly squandering a 23-point halftime lead.

The Blazers needed a 14-0 run late in the fourth quarter to put the game away. Cleveland cut the lead to 88-84 going into the fourth and was behind 105-102 with 4:42 left, but Portland's backcourt duo of McCollum and Damian Lillard took over from there.

Damian Lillard scored eight of his 21 points in the final period for Portland.

Cedi Osman scored 27 points for the Cavaliers, who were attempting to win three straight for the first time this season. Kevin Love, playing his fifth game since returning from foot surgery, had 18 points and 12 rebounds in 28 minutes.

## **BUCKS 117, BULLS 106**

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Khris Middleton and Malcolm Brogdon scored 22 points apiece, and NBA-leading Milwaukee beat Chicago with All-Star Giannis Antetokounmpo sidelined with a sore right knee.

The Bucks overcame a sluggish start to pick up their 17th win in 19 games.

The Bucks picked up their eighth straight road win — their best streak since a nine-game run during the 1981-82 season.

Nikola Mirotic scored 13, and the Bucks moved a season-high 32 games over .500.

Lauri Markkanen and Robin Lopez each scored 26 for Chicago, which saw its three-game win streak halted.

## **GRIZZLIES 110, LAKERS 105**

**MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)** — Mike Conley had 30 points, including key free throws in the final minute, Jonas Valanciunas finished with 20 points and 13 rebounds, and Memphis put another dent in Los Angeles' playoff hopes.

LeBron James had 24 points, 12 rebounds and 11 assists but made only 8 of 23

shots. Brandon Ingram led the Lakers with 32 points, and Kyle Kuzma finished with 22 as Los Angeles lost its fourth of five.

Joakim Noah had 14 points and 12 rebounds, while Avery Bradley scored 15 points for Memphis, which ended a four-game skid.

## **TIMBERWOLVES 112, KINGS 105**

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** — Karl-Anthony Towns had 34 points and 21 rebounds in his return from the concussion protocol, helping Minnesota hold off Sacramento.

Derrick Rose added 20 points and Tyus Jones pitched in 16 points, eight assists and three steals for the Timberwolves, who split the previous two games without Towns, while he recovered following a highway crash last week involving the car he was riding in. The accident ended Towns' streak of 302 consecutive starts to begin his NBA career.

Rookie Marvin Bagley III had 25 points and 11 rebounds and De'Aaron Fox scored 23 points for the Kings (31-29), who like the Timberwolves (29-31) are just below the cut for the Western Conference playoffs with the Los Angeles Lakers between them.

## **76ERS 111, PELICANS 110**

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — Tobias Harris scored 29 points, Ben Simmons had 14 points and 12 assists, and Philadelphia narrowly held off New Orleans. Sixers 7-foot-3 reserve Boban Marjanovic had 12 points, 10 rebound and two blocks in less than 22 minutes to help fill the void in the middle created by the absence of 7-foot All-Star Joel Embiid, who has missed all three of Philadelphia's games since the All-Star break.

Marjanovic needed assistance getting off the court and was taken to the locker room after getting tangled up with a pair of Pelicans players in the paint with just more than a minute left.

Anthony Davis scored 18 points in 21 minutes, but was taken out of the game for good with 5:11 left in the third quarter. □



# Lightning top Kings 4-3 in shootout for 9th straight win

**By The Associated Press**  
**TAMPA, Fla. (AP)** — Nikita Kucherov, Steven Stamkos and Victor Hedman scored in the shootout and the NHL-leading Tampa Bay Lightning beat the Los Angeles Kings 4-3 for their ninth straight victory Monday night, matching the longest winning streak in franchise history.

J.T. Miller's third-period goal forced overtime, and Andrei Vasilevskiy stopped 30 shots for the Lightning, who improved the league's best record to 48-11-4 and became the fourth team to reach 100 points in 63 games or less.

Alex Iafallo, Jonny Brodzinski and Austin Wagner scored in the third period, helping Los Angeles turn a two-goal deficit into a short-lived 3-2 lead that goalie Jack Campbell couldn't protect. The Kings have lost eight straight, their longest skid since December 2007. Braden Point and Anthony Cirelli had first-period goals for the Lightning, who fell behind when Brodzinski and Wagner scored in a 36-second span. Miller countered less than a minute later to make it 3-all.

Kucherov got his 71st assist on Tampa Bay's first goal, giving him a league-leading and career-best 101 points.

**PREDATORS 3, OILERS 2**  
**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)** — Brian Boyle scored in the fourth round of a shootout

to lift Nashville over Edmonton.

P.K. Subban had a goal and an assist, and Colton Sissons also scored as the Predators won for the third time in four games to pass Winnipeg for first place in the Central Division. The Jets have three games in hand.

Pekka Rinne made a pad save on Ty Rattie when the Oilers forward tried to extend the shootout.

Leon Draisaitl scored twice for Edmonton, which won its previous two games.

Kyle Turris and Ryan Ellis each hit the post as the first two shooters for Nashville in the tiebreaker. After Filip Forsberg scored for the Predators, Sam Gagner forced the shootout to sudden death.

**MAPLE LEAFS 5, SABRES 3**  
**TORONTO (AP)** — John Tavares, Auston Matthews and Frederik Gauthier scored three quick goals in the second period and Toronto held off Buffalo.

Tyler Ennis had the eventual winner in Toronto's four-goal second and Kasper Kapanen added some insurance with a short-handed goal in the third.

Matthews is the first player in Maple Leafs history to score 30-plus goals in the first three seasons of his NHL career.

Frederik Andersen made 31 saves for his 100th win with Toronto.

Jack Eichel scored twice



Tampa Bay Lightning center Steven Stamkos (91) scores past Los Angeles Kings goaltender Jack Campbell (36) during a shootout in an NHL hockey game Monday, Feb. 25, 2019, in Tampa, Fla. Tampa Bay won, 4-3, in the shootout.

Associated Press

and Sam Reinhart had a goal, but the Sabres' play-off chances took another hit.

**DEVILS 2, CANADIENS 1**  
**NEWARK, N.J. (AP)** — Nathan Bastian scored his first NHL goal, Kurtis Gabriel got his second and last-place New Jersey continued to be a thorn in Montreal's playoff hopes.

Recently acquired defenseman Connor Carrick set up both goals and Cory Schneider made 34 saves as the young Devils swept their three-game season series with the Canadiens. Montreal had a lot more at stake. It came into the night with a one-point lead over Carolina and Pittsburgh for the top wild card in the Eastern Conference. The Hurricanes and Penguins now each have a game in hand.

Paul Byron scored a short-handed goal for Montreal, and Carey Price made 20 saves.

**PANTHERS 4, AVALANCHE 3, OT**

**DENVER (AP)** — Aaron Ekblad scored 26 seconds into overtime, Roberto Luongo stopped 36 shots to earn career win No. 485 and Florida beat Colorado. The winning play was set up when Mike Hoffman sped down the ice, spun past defenseman Samuel Girard and sent a pass over to Ekblad, whose shot slid through the pads of Semyon Varlamov. The Avalanche fell to 1-12 in OT this season.

Hoffman had a goal midway through the third period to tie the game. Troy Brouwer and Evgenii Dadonov scored 1:09 apart late in the second period to erase a 2-0 deficit. The win moved Luongo past Ed Bellemore for third place on the career list.

Derick Brassard, Mikko Rantanen and Tyson Jost scored for the Avalanche as their four-game winning

streak was halted. Varlamov made 34 saves.

Brassard nearly had the winner in his Colorado debut on a goal with 12:11 remaining. But his former teammate, Hoffman, stole his thunder by tying it minutes later.

It was a wild day for Brassard, who woke up Monday morning as a member of the Panthers only to be traded to the Avalanche.

**CANUCKS 4, DUCKS 0**  
**VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP)** — Jacob Markstrom made 29 saves for his first shutout of the season and Bo Horvat scored twice to lead Vancouver past Anaheim.

Alex Biega and Nikolay Goldobin also scored as the Canucks snapped a three-game skid and won in regulation for the first time in their last 11.

The shutout was the third of Markstrom's career. His previous one came against Dallas on Feb. 11, 2018. □

## Wilder-Fury 2 off for now, according to WBC

**By The Associated Press**  
The WBC heavyweight title rematch between champion Deontay Wilder and Tyson Fury is off for now. The two fought to a draw in December and were negotiating a rematch. But WBC President Mauricio Sulaiman said Tuesday he received confirmation from Fury that the challenger

would look elsewhere for his next bout.

"Deontay Wilder vs Tyson Fury is officially not happening next," Sulaiman tweeted.

"The WBC Boxing has received communications as our process, and while WBC Champion Wilder confirmed its willingness to fight the rematch, Fury

will take on another fight with expectations to do rematch at a later date."

Wilder is now expected to take on Dominic Breazeale, who is the next mandatory WBC challenger.

Anthony Joshua, who holds the other major heavyweight belts, will take on Jarrell Miller in June in New York. □



This Dec. 1, 2018, file photo shows Deontay Wilder, left, and Tyson Fury, of England, trading punches during a WBC heavyweight championship boxing match in Los Angeles.

Associated Press



# MLB makes last-minute push to ban bets on spring training

By REGINA GARCIA CANO  
Associated Press

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — A request from Major League Baseball to gambling regulators to ban betting on spring training games was quickly rejected in Nevada and is under consideration in at least three other states that recently legalized sports betting.

The league asked for the ban on Wednesday last week — the day before the first scheduled spring training game — arguing in letters to regulators that the exhibition games are "more vulnerable to manipulation" because teams are focused on getting players ready for the season, not on winning. MLB said its concerns have grown because of the spread of legal sports gambling after a ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court last year opened the possibility of new American markets.

The games have historically attracted little to no betting action in Nevada, where casinos in Las Vegas and elsewhere have taken bets on spring training games for decades.

MLB's deputy general counsel Bryan Seeley argued the risk is "particularly acute" during spring training because many players are not on the roster and don't make much money.



In this Monday, May 14, 2018, file photo, people make bets in the sports book at the South Point hotel and casino in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

"Spring Training games provide greater opportunity for the misuse of inside information," he wrote in his request. "The outcome of games sometimes depends heavily on non-public managerial decisions that are made in advance and are independent of Club or player performance, such as how many innings a pitcher will throw or in which inning Minor League players will replace Major League players."

The Nevada Gaming Control Board responded the following day, say-

ing sportsbooks across the state have controls in place to minimize concerns about players potentially fixing bets and haven't had any problems with spring training.

Board chairwoman Sandra Morgan said Nevada's sportsbooks have served as the "alarm bell" when something was amiss with sporting events and related wagers.

Nevada's effective monopoly on sports betting ended last spring with the Supreme Court backing a challenge from New Jer-

sey to a ban in most of the country. Casinos in seven other states now accept wagers on sports, and the list is expected to grow with at least 22 states considering bills this year.

Pennsylvania received a similar request from Major League Baseball and quickly called a timeout.

"We acknowledge the concerns they raised concerning sports wagering on spring training games and we are examining these concerns," said Doug Harbach, a spokesman for the Pennsylvania Gaming

Control Board. "While we do this, we have requested Pennsylvania sports wagering operators to refrain from offering wagers on spring training games."

Sportsbooks in Mississippi are accepting bets on the games. The executive director of the Mississippi Gaming Commission, Allen Godfrey, said he has not responded to MLB.

New Jersey is reviewing the league's request.

The Westgate Las Vegas Superbook had 10 spring training games on the board Tuesday. Jay Kornegay, vice president of race and sports book operations, said of the 20 teams, only two had more than \$200 wagered and none had more than \$300 in total action. Some teams didn't have a single bet by early afternoon, when most games begin.

No team had more than two tickets written for straight bets. In parlays, no team had more than 10 tickets.

The limits for bets on spring training games at the Westgate are \$1,000 on the side and \$500 on the total. The sportsbook does not take wagers on split-squad games. Kornegay said the betting action in the games is traditionally so low that it would be very easy to detect unusual patterns. □

# Cowboys' Gregory suspended indefinitely in 4th ban from NFL

By SCHUYLER DIXON  
AP Pro Football Writer

Dallas Cowboys defensive end Randy Gregory was suspended indefinitely Tuesday for violating the NFL's substance-abuse policy, the fourth time the troubled player has been banned by the league.

The suspension comes about seven months after Gregory was reinstated by Commissioner Roger Goodell following a lengthy process aimed at reviving his career. Gregory missed 30 of the 32 games over two seasons as a result of his first three suspensions.

Gregory had his best year in 2018, posting career highs with six sacks and 14



This a 2016 photo shows Randy Gregory of the Dallas Cowboys NFL football team.

Associated Press

games. He was reinstated just before the start of training camp last year and was active for the season opener.

While suspensions in the most advanced stage of

the league's substance-abuse policy are at least a year, it wasn't immediately clear how long the 26-year-old Gregory's latest ban would be.

His previous suspension was a yearlong ban, and Gregory waited several months beyond that to submit his case to Goodell in hopes of improving his chances. Several teammates wrote letters supporting Gregory's bid.

The Cowboys declined to comment on Gregory's latest suspension, and one of his representatives didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

As with the yearlong ban, Gregory won't be allowed

to participate in the Cowboys' offseason program. He can only go to the team's practice facility to meet with the person in charge of his treatment.

Gregory slid to the Cowboys late in the second round of the 2015 draft after testing positive for marijuana at the NFL combine. The former Nebraska standout was considered one of the best pass rushers in his draft, and there was promise early with a strong rookie training camp.

After vowing to owner and general manager Jerry Jones that he could control his issues with marijuana, Gregory only made it through one season. He

didn't have a sack as a rookie while missing four games with an ankle injury. The first suspension, a four-game ban, was announced in February 2016, and he was away from the team during training camp while in rehab. A 10-game suspension came seven months later. Gregory remained with the team while missing those 14 games before playing in the final two games of the 2016 season. Gregory's yearlong suspension was announced during Dallas' two-week break between the end of the 2016 regular season and a divisional playoff loss to Green Bay. He missed all of 2017. □



# U.S. is Popovich's team now, but he won't lobby players for it

By **BRIAN MAHONEY**

AP Basketball Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Now the U.S. really is Gregg Popovich's team.

He's been the Americans' national team coach for a few years but there was never a guarantee he'd actually get to lead them in competition. The U.S. first had to qualify for the Basketball World Cup, where the Americans can then play their way into the 2020 Olympics.

With that done, Popovich can lobby players to go to China with him.

He won't.

"I just think that would be inappropriate for me before games to go up to one or two guys on each team and say, 'Hey, are you going to play for us this summer? I'd really like to have you,'" Popovich said. "He's there to try to whip (us). He's got a different prior-

ity that night and I think it would be inappropriate for me to try to do that."

Jeff Van Gundy guided the U.S. through qualifying, earning a spot in China with teams comprised of mostly NBA G League players. He finished 10-2 when the Americans beat Argentina 84-83 on Monday night in Greensboro, North Carolina.

"He was remarkable. Spectacular. Off the charts what he did to qualify the USA for the world championships," Popovich said. "He put together about five different teams, mostly different players each time in a short amount of time they had to get them ready. If they didn't do well, U.S. doesn't go and he deserves a lot of credit for doing that on his own and really grateful to him."

The minor leaguers will now give way to NBA stars this

summer. Popovich, the San Antonio Spurs coach who was hired in 2015 to succeed Mike Krzyzewski following the Rio Olympics, said he doesn't believe anybody has, thus far, committed to playing.

The Americans compiled a national team pool of more than 30 players they can choose from, knowing top stars such as LeBron James are unlikely to want to play consecutive summers. They will trim that to a smaller number to invite to training camp in Las Vegas this summer, with the goal of getting the final roster of 12 players there.

Unlike Krzyzewski, who rarely saw his prospective players while coaching at Duke, Popovich is around them all the time during the NBA season.

"And hate half of them," he joked. "It's going to be really tough to coach them."



San Antonio Spurs head coach Gregg Popovich give referee Tony Brothers (25) and earfull during the second half of an NBA basketball game in New York, Sunday, Feb. 24, 2019. The Knicks defeated the Spurs 130-118.

Associated Press

USA Basketball leaders haven't begun reaching out to World Cup prospects yet, needing to devote their time first to the revolving-door rosters of the qualifying games. With that behind them, national team managing director

Jerry Colangelo and director Sean Ford can begin assembling the next team — without Popovich's help. "Jerry Colangelo has been the wizard of that, he's been the guy who's put those teams together along with Sean Ford," Popovich said.

## MARLINS

Continued from Page 18

"We want to invest in the players outside of their athletic abilities — invest in them as human beings," Jeter says. "Communication is first and foremost when you talk about building a championship-caliber organization, which means making sure our Spanish-speaking players are speaking English, but also our English-speaking players speaking Spanish." The Jeter regime's education program for minor league players extends beyond language. They're taught life skills and cultural awareness — an asset for youngsters hoping to break into the big leagues in one of the nation's most diverse cities.

The Marlins are not alone. About half of the 30 teams in the big leagues have begun offering Spanish lessons to English-speaking players in the past few years, says Major League Baseball vice president Paul Mifsud, who works with player programs.

"The public focus on what the Marlins are doing has helped to improve both the quality of these kinds of initiatives, and the expedi-

ency with which teams are adopting this," Mifsud says. "The Marlins' industry leadership on this is extremely helpful. We'd like all 30 teams doing their best to get players the level of education they want on these issues, and I think we're heading that direction."

Alfaro's T-shirt was worn in jest — he's bilingual, excited about his move to Miami and already a clubhouse leader. But potential cultural divides exist on any team, and the Marlins' education program offers a bridge.

"We're learning about each other," says Gary Denbo, vice president of scouting and player development. "We address cultural awareness: Why do Latin players listen to their music so loud? Why do American players take it so hard when they go 0 for 4 with the expectations placed on them by their families? Why do some guys talk so loud on the bus?"

"The work our education department is doing affects everything in our players' lives. We cover cooking, shopping, nutrition and how to pay your

bills and manage your money."

At the start of spring training, the Marlins held a cooking competition for a group of top minor leaguers. The winning team of outfielder Connor Scott, shortstop Osiris Johnson and pitcher Jorge Guzman celebrated with whoops and high-fives — exactly the kind of scene Marlins officials hope to see more of.

The trio were white, black and Latin, and their chicken and broccoli stir fry reportedly was delicious.

"You've got three guys from totally different worlds," Denbo says. "And when they were announced as the winners, it was like they had won the World Series." Scott, the Marlins' first-round draft pick last year, says he appreciates the chance to learn about and communicate with another culture.

"The better you know your teammates, the more you trust them," Scott says. "I think that's the biggest they're preaching here — trust. If you don't trust the guy next to you, how will you trust him to get the runner over, or trust that he's not going to run into you in



Miami Marlins pitchers Trevor Richards, right, and Hector Noesi speak to each other during spring training baseball practice Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019, in Jupiter, Fla.

Associated Press

the outfield?"

Scott says he took no Spanish in high school, but thanks to the Marlins he can now converse in the language. Catcher Will Banfield, a second-round draft pick last year, says he has made progress speaking Spanish when meeting with Latin pitchers, although it's not always as difficult as it might seem. "'Curveball' is 'curveball,'" he says. "'Slider' is 'slider.'" Still, as he anticipates an eventual promotion to Miami, Banfield says learning Spanish will help him, off the field as well as on the mound. The Marlins have hired six full-time teachers,

plus part-time instructors. Every minor league affiliate will have a teacher this season, and when a team is at home, every player will receive Spanish, English or life skills lessons, according to Denbo.

Marlins veterans applaud the program. Infielder Miguel Rojas, who's bilingual, says improved language skills can ease the transition to the majors, especially in South Florida.

"You're going to jump in an Uber, and that guy is going to speak Spanish," Rojas says. "So these American guys will be prepared with what they're going to face in Miami." □





**By: Dr Carlos Viana**

The Latin word for "love" and "desire" evolves from 'venus' to 'venereus' and yields the English word 'venereal'; used to describe sex acts or sexual desire. The word venereal is now associated to describe an infection or disease caught or transmitted through sexual intercourse. Love and desire for another person should be a wonderful experience and not spoiled by contracting an infection or incurable disease.

In our community, I laud the progressive response to HIV infections and teenage pregnancy launched by the Women's Club of Aruba and other organizations. Unfortunately, many more potential problems can arise from sexual contact. I suspiciously view individuals in our community that are vehemently against sexually educating our young people. Keeping anyone ignorant is an easy way of exploiting and abusing them.

Without question, the best way to prevent sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) is to avoid sexual contact with others. However, in our community, without in-depth sexual education, many of our young people are unprepared for the natural hormone surge propelling them to sexual activity. Most, sexually active young patients in our clinic are surprised when we start screening them for some of the more than 20 sexually transmitted infections (STDs) that occur mostly in people younger than 25 years of age.

## Venus Contaminated

This article is in response to all the young people who tell me they have heard of AIDS infection but are surprised to hear about of these other infections.

The frequency of STDs is rising because young people have become sexually active earlier, marrying later, and a basic lack of sexual education. Additionally, divorce and relationships break up faster so people today are more likely to have multiple sex partners during their lives increasing the risk for developing STDs. All of these infections are acquired through sexual contact. Chlamydial infection is now the most common of all bacterial STDs and in both men and women, may cause an abnormal genital discharge and burning with urination. In women, untreated Chlamydial infection may lead to pelvic inflammatory disease, one of the most common causes of sterility in women. However, the real danger is that many people with infected with Chlamydia have few or no symptoms, do not get medical help and continue spreading the disease. Once diagnosed with Chlamydial infection, a person can be treated with an antibiotic.

Genital herpes is an incurable viral infection caused by herpes simplex virus. The major symptoms of herpes infection are painful blisters or open sores in the genital area. Before the blisters develop, people will feel tingling or burning sensation in the legs, buttocks, or genital region. The herpes sores usually disappear within two to three weeks, but the virus remains in the body for life and the lesions may recur from time to time. Drugs can help control the symptoms but do not eliminate the herpes virus from the body. Women who acquire genital herpes during pregnancy can transmit the virus to their babies. Untreated herpes infection in newborns can result in mental retardation and death. In our clinic we recommend supplementation with the amino acid Lysine that works well to help heal herpes sores. Additionally, acupuncture works well to remove the "bite" or itch from the lesions.

Anytime a patient whether a man or woman complains of a discharge from the vagina or penis and painful or difficult urination we screen them for gonorrhea. Like Chlamydia infection the most common and serious complications occur in women producing problems staying pregnant. In the past penicillin has been used

to treat gonorrhea, but in the last decade, four types of antibiotic resistant gonorrhea have emerged.

The first symptoms of syphilis may go undetected because they are very mild and disappear spontaneously. The initial symptom is a painless open sore that usually appears on the penis, around, or in the vagina. It can also occur near the mouth, anus, or on the hands. Untreated, syphilis may go on to more advanced stages, including a skin rash and, eventually, serious involvement of the heart and central nervous system. The full course of the disease can take years. If you do not contract a resistant strain, penicillin remains the most effective drug to treat people with syphilis.

Many more infections are possible from intimate physical contact. Genital warts are caused by human papillomavirus, a virus related to the virus that causes common skin warts. Genital warts usually first appear as small, hard painless bumps in the vaginal area, on the penis, or around the anus. Many women have told me that they have been treated for warts in their vagina, but do not understand that the implication which is an absolute risk of developing cervical cancer. Many women are surprised to hear that this sexually transmitted virus causes approximately 93 percent of all cervical cancers.

Get The Point! The sale of condoms the last decade has shot up dramatically. However, older, wiser individuals are the ones buying this cheap and effective protection. The lack of sales to people younger than 25 is reflected in the high amount of sexually transmitted infections among young people. In depth, sexual education is the first step toward prevention of sexually transmitted problems. Sometimes young people are too embarrassed or frightened to ask for help or information. Most sexually transmitted infections are readily treated, and the earlier a person seeks treatment and warns sex partners about the disease, the less likely the disease will do irreparable physical damage, be spread to others or, in the case of a woman, be passed on to a newborn baby. If you have reason to be concerned, we can help you get tested and discuss confidential treatment options if necessary. Make sure your activities of "love" and "desire" does not include the word 'venereal' □

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# Millennial Money: Don't freak out about your emergency fund

By AMRITA JAYAKUMAR  
Associated Press

Let's be real: For millennials, having an emergency fund is way down on the financial worry list, behind student loan debt, medical bills or saving for a down payment.

Some weeks, it can feel like you barely have enough money to get by, let alone put some away for a rainy day.

But that cash stash can be crucial in preventing a debt spiral or keeping you afloat if you lose your job. Regardless of income, building your emergency fund doesn't have to be intimidating.

## START SMALL, BUILD A HABIT

First, pick an amount you can put away on a regular basis, no matter how small. Then, commit to it.

"It can be as little as \$10 a week into a separate savings account," says Lara Lamb, a certified financial planner at Abacus Wealth Partners in Los Angeles. Making a small contribution every week is less painful than shooting for an ideal final sum, she says. Automatically transferring the money to a separate account helps you succeed



In this June 15, 2018, file photo a canning jar filled with currency sits on a shelf in East Derry, N.H. Associated Press

at saving.

The saving habit — even if it's small — is valuable for your finances in the long term, says Eric Gabor, a certified financial planner at Eagle Grove Advisors in Jersey City, New Jersey.

A family with at least \$250 in savings is less likely to face financial turmoil such as a missed utility payment or eviction, according to a 2016 study by the Urban Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based think tank. Any

amount above that — \$400, \$500 — improves your chances of navigating a setback.

Getting started is especially important for younger adults. An Urban Institute study released this year found 35.6 percent of adults ages 18-34 surveyed in December 2017 had experienced "financial insecurity" in the previous 12 months. That was the highest among the study's three age groups of adults

under 65. It defined financial insecurity as the "inability to come up with a small amount of money to buffer negative economic shocks or to pay his or her credit card or nonmortgage loan." Lamb suggests working toward one month's fixed expenses, which includes rent, groceries, transportation and insurance. "Don't worry about your eating-out money or shopping money," she says. "If you are in an emergency

or a transition, the whole idea is you would cut back on your spending."

A savings account that pays a high interest rate is a smart place to keep your fund, both planners say, so it can grow.

## MAKE USE OF WINDFALLS

An easy way to kick-start your fund is to use windfalls — part of a tax refund or even birthday money from relatives. Young professionals typically get tax refunds instead of owing money, Gabor says. The IRS allows you to direct deposit your refund in up to three accounts, so you can send part directly to your emergency fund. If no windfall is imminent, check your checking account. Leave a small buffer so that you aren't at risk of overdrawing and put anything else in the emergency fund to earn interest, Lamb says.

There's no ideal amount to keep in your checking account. But both financial planners warn that having a lot of extra "cushion" in a checking account carries the temptation to spend it.

## PLAN FOR NON-EMERGENCIES

If you're building the habit of saving for emergencies, use that muscle to plan for other expenses.

Financial experts often use the terms "irregular expenses" and "unplanned expenses." An unplanned expense is something you don't foresee, such as an illness or car repair. □

# US housing starts plummeted 11.2 percent in December

By JOSH BOAK

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of homes being built in December plunged to the lowest level in more than two years, a possible sign that developers are anticipating fewer new houses to be sold this year. The Commerce Department said Tuesday that housing starts fell 11.2 percent in December from the previous month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate 1.08 million. This is the slowest pace of construction since September 2016. Over the past 12 months, housing starts have tumbled 10.2 percent. December's decline occurred for single-family houses and apartment buildings. Builders have pulled back as higher prices have caused home sales to slump, sug-

gesting that affordability challenges have caused the pool of would-be buyers and renters to dwindle. The housing market initially cooled last year as average, 30-year mortgage rates climbed to nearly 5 percent. But that average has fallen sharply in recent weeks, which might help boost some home purchases in 2019. Still, home prices have consistently risen faster than wages and the inventory of homes listed for \$250,000 or less is tight, suggesting a sluggish market going forward.

Permits to build housing, an indicator of future activity, increased just 0.3 percent in December. Among single-family houses, permits fell 2.2 percent in December and 5.5 percent from a year ago. □



In this Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019, photo a construction crew works on an already sold new home in north Dallas. Associated Press

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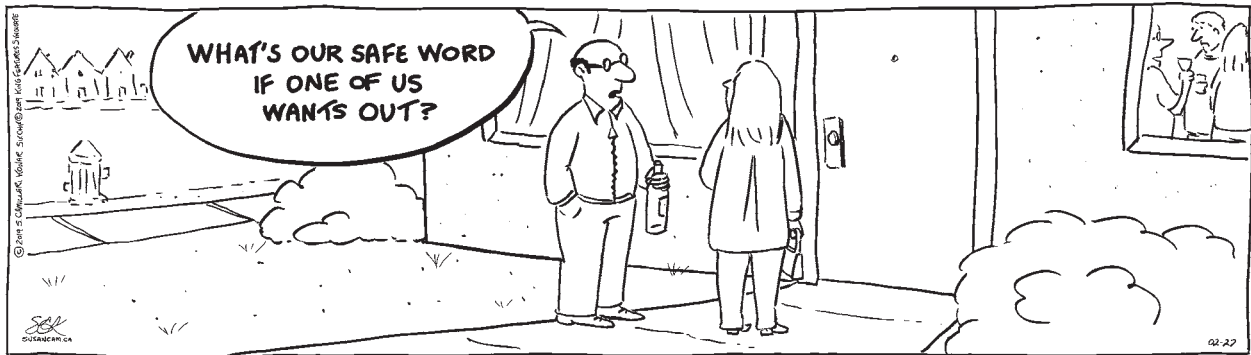
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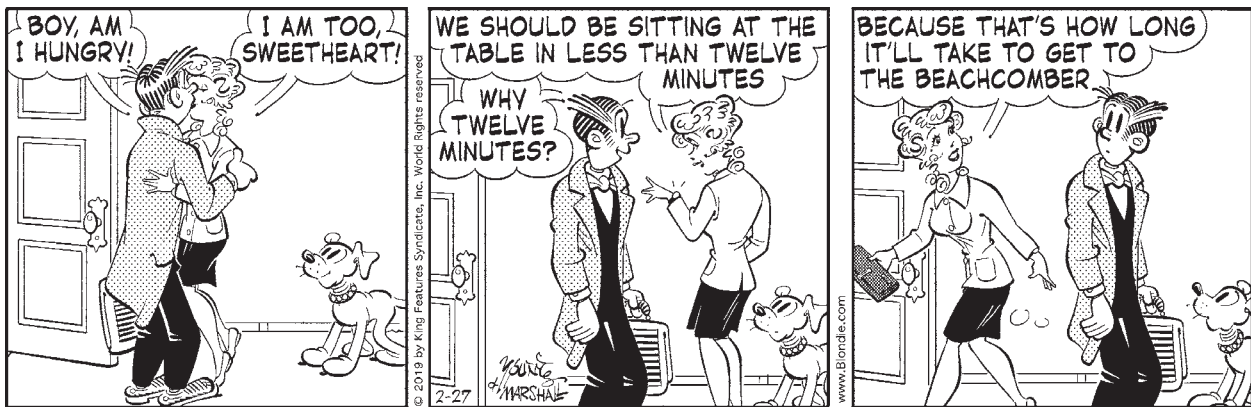
**Mutts**



**6 Chix**



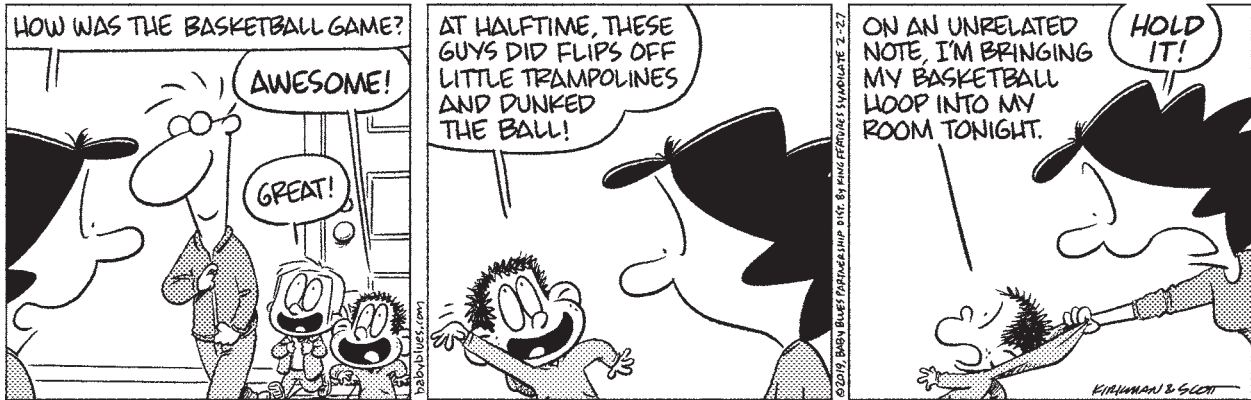
**Blondie**



**Mother Goose & Grimm**



**Baby Blues**



**Zits**



**Conceptis Sudoku**

	9	3				7	6	
4			5		8			1
			6					9
			4					3
		2					1	
			8					5
			9					6
8			2		1			4
	6	5				9	3	

Difficulty Level ★★★

2/27

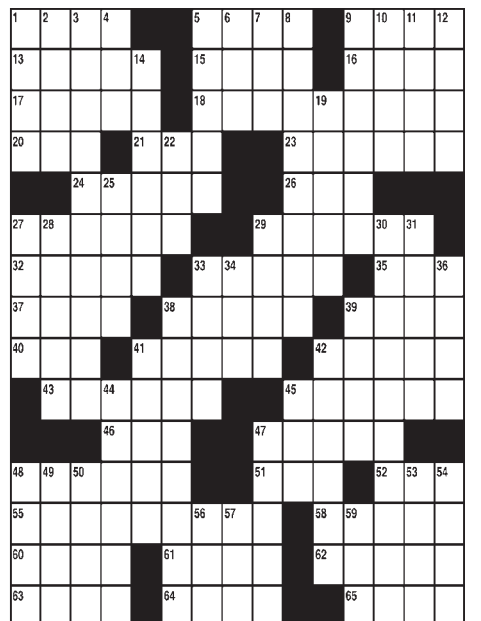
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

8	2	4	9	7	1	3	5	6
6	7	1	3	5	8	4	9	2
5	9	3	4	2	6	1	8	7
7	4	2	6	1	9	8	3	5
1	5	9	8	3	7	2	6	4
3	6	8	5	4	2	7	1	9
9	1	6	7	8	4	5	2	3
2	3	7	1	9	5	6	4	8
4	8	5	2	6	3	9	7	1

**ACROSS**

- 1 Gullible fools
- 5 Laurel or Musial
- 9 Not quite closed
- 13 TV's "Green \_"
- 15 "Mary \_ little lamb..."
- 16 Easy stride
- 17 Simple ghost costume
- 18 Still pristine
- 20 Black or Baltic
- 21 Word attached to meal or cake
- 23 Noises
- 24 Plant parts
- 26 Location of the ossicles
- 27 1 of 13 on the U.S. flag
- 29 Least wacky
- 32 Cures
- 33 Falkirk folks
- 35 Energy
- 37 Resorts
- 38 Glowed
- 39 Oliver's request
- 40 Holiday drink
- 41 \_ around;
- 42 \_cotta; patio pot clay
- 43 Save from peril
- 45 Babbles
- 46 Womanizer
- 47 Rings out
- 48 Leave high and dry
- 51 Possess
- 52 Skillet
- 55 Polite
- 58 Discontinue
- 60 Capable
- 61 Trick
- 62 Poe or Bergen
- 63 Ball holders
- 64 Have the lead role
- 65 \_ packing; dismiss abruptly



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

2/27/19

**Tuesday's Puzzle Solved**

JOB	ACHED	ARMS
RUES	CLEAR	SEEP
STEM	TEASE	SEAR
SPECIALTY	ALLY	
LOOT	FBI	
AVALON	BOUILLON	
PAGES	MOIST	EW
AGED	BAWLS	PANE
RUN	LAKES	SAVED
TETHERED	RACERS	
OON	SILK	
TATA	ASSISTANT	
OVER	CHEEK	GEAR
DIED	LUNGE	EACH
ODDS	ENDED	TKO

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2/27/19

**DOWN**

- 1 Speak impudently
- 2 Throbbing pain
- 3 Set up in advance
- 41 Meager

- 42 In a \_;
- 43 hypnotized
- 44 Frightens
- 45 Church seat
- 47 Baffling question
- 48 "Get lost!"
- 49 " \_ or not to be..."
- 50 Bylaw
- 53 Straight \_ arrow
- 54 Bookish fellow
- 56 Not at home
- 57 Neighbor of Mexico: abbr.
- 59 McMahon & Marinaro



# Classifieds

## Halley Time Travel

### Divi Village

1 BR WK # 8 & 9  
21 & 25 weeks remain  
\$9000 each

### Divi links Golf

1 BR WK# 8 & 9  
27 weeks remain  
\$9000 each

### Eagle Resort & Casino

1 BR WK # 5,6,7,8  
Ground floor \$7000 each  
1 BR WK 7 & 8 \$7000 each

### Dutch Village

1 BR WK 8 \$8500  
24 weeks remain

### House For Sale

### Catiri

3 Bedroom , 2 Bath  
10 Min drive to beach  
Central located \$250 K  
Ponton  
4 Bedroom , 3 Bath  
Swimming pool \$350K

### Marriott Ocean Club

Platinum  
1 BR Ocean View \$10,000  
2 BR Ocean View \$16,000  
2 BR Ocean Front \$24,000

### Barceló

2 BR dlx wk 9 and 10 \$40K  
both wks

### Aruba Divi Phoenix

2 BR Penthouse WK # 11 & 12  
Building 9 the 7th floor  
27 weeks remain \$25K each  
Property land for sale  
Savaneta on the main road  
1050 m2 \$110.000 american  
dollars

### Divi Links Golf

1 BR WK 11 & 12  
26 weeks remain each  
\$9000 each  
Studio Wk 11  
26 weeks remain \$8000

### House for sale

### Opal

3 bedroom , 2 bath \$ 325K

### Aruba Divi Phoenix

1 BR WK # 11  
Building 7 3rd floor  
34 weeks remain \$16K

### Marriott Surf Club

2 BR Garden Vie w \$14,000  
2 BR Ocean View \$ 15,000  
2 BR Ocean Side \$16,000  
2 BR Ocean Front \$ 27,000  
3 BR Ocean View \$26,000

### La Cabana Beach & Casino

1 Br Wk # 11 & 12  
4th floor pool/Ocean view  
Sunday check in \$ 18, 000 both  
Divi Village  
Studio WK # 6  
22 weeks remain \$8000

### Renaissance Suites

1 BR WK # 9 \$9500  
4th Floor Harbor/Ocean View  
Aruba Divi Phoenix  
Studio wk # 9  
building 6  
5th floor \$9000  
30 weeks remain

### Aruba Divi Phoenix

1 BR Wk # 8  
Building # 6 on the 4th floor  
With 29 weeks remain \$ 16K  
1 BR WK # 10 building #8  
6th floor 28 weeks remain \$16K

### Barcelo Resorts

All inclusive  
Studio wk # 8 & 9  
\$25K both  
1 Br DLX wk 2/17 \$13K  
1 Br Supreme wk 2/17 \$15K  
2 BR PH wk 2/17 \$25K

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Wk 2/1113 - (\$16,000)  
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Wks 5 & 6/1521 (\$20,000/wk)  
Wk 7/1308 (\$18,000)  
Wks 7 & 8/1408 (\$18,000)  
Wk 8/1113 (\$17,000)  
Wk 8/1409 (\$17,000)  
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Week 13 Two Bed Unit #4552H  
Fri/Fri \$4,900  
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or cell 592 0500  
In US sales.cpv@hotmail.com  
or cell 978 530 6077

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### Eagle Resort & Casino

wk 5,6 /3 Br, 2 Bth F Reno, S  
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commodoremtrs@icloud.com

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### FOR SALE

### by Owner

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week 6  
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# NASA, SpaceX OK 1st test flight of crew capsule next week

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — NASA and SpaceX on Friday approved a first test flight next week of the new commercial Dragon capsule designed for crew. No one will be aboard, only an instrumented dummy in a white SpaceX spacesuit. But the capsule will still fly to the International Space Station, following its planned March 2 liftoff from NASA's Kennedy Space Center. Officials gave the green light after conducting a safety review.

NASA's head of human exploration and operations, William Gerstenmaier, called the upcoming test flight "an absolutely critical first step" to eventually putting astronauts on board. A phenomenal amount of work has gone into ensuring the capsule does not endanger the space station and its three occupants as it pulls up and docks, Gerstenmaier said. It will remain at the orbiting lab just under a week before aiming for a splashdown in the Atlantic off Florida. Radiation monitors and supplies are going up, and science



This undated photo made available by SpaceX on Feb 6, 2019 shows the Dragon crew capsule atop a Falcon 9 rocket at the launch pad at Kennedy Space Center in Florida where the Saturn Vs and space shuttles were launched.

Associated Press

samples and used equipment are coming down. Human spaceflight is the company's core mission, said Hans Koenigsmann,

a SpaceX vice president, and for now, there's nothing more important than this endeavor. "It's a really big deal for

SpaceX," he told reporters. Space X has been making space station shipments since 2012. The private company had to overhaul

its cargo capsule for astronauts. If the upcoming demo goes well, two NASA astronauts could strap in for the next test flight this summer. Officials stressed much work remains to be done, with problems possibly solved through redesign, before the capsule is qualified to carry humans. It would be the first launch of NASA astronauts from U.S. soil in eight years, since NASA's shuttle program ended. They have been riding Russian rockets to get to and from the space station, costing NASA tens of millions of dollars per seat. The SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket scheduled to soar at 2:48 a.m. EST on March 2 is brand new. NASA does not want recycled boosters for these crew capsule missions. SpaceX plans to conduct a high-altitude launch abort in April, reusing this same capsule.

Boeing is also in the commercial race to transport space station astronauts. Its first Starliner demo is targeted for April, and the second, with astronauts, no earlier than August. □

# Iceland to keep hunting up to 2,130 whales over 5 years



In this file photo dated Saturday Aug. 23, 2003, a whale is hauled onto a fishing boat after it was killed in the Atlantic Ocean off the west coast of Iceland.

Associated Press

By EGILL BJARNASON REYKJAVIK, Iceland (AP) — Iceland's whaling industry will be allowed to keep hunting whales for at least another five years, killing up to 2,130 baleen whales under a new quota issued by the government. The five-year whaling policy was up for renewal when Fisheries Minister Kristjan Juliusson announced this week an annual quota of 209 fin whales and 217 minke whales for the next five years.

While many Icelanders support whale hunting, a growing number of businessmen and politicians are against it due to the North Atlantic island nation's dependence on tourism. Whaling, they say, is bad for business and poses a threat to the country's reputation and the expanding international tourism that has become a mainstay of Ice-

land's national economy. "We risk damaging the tourism sector, our most important industry," legislator Bjarkey Gunnarsdottir said, referring to the international criticism and diplomatic pressure that Iceland faces for allowing the commercial hunting of whales. The Icelandic Travel Industry Association issued a statement Friday saying the government was damaging the nation's "great interests" and the country's reputation to benefit a small whaling sector that is struggling to sell its products. "Their market for whale meat is Japan, Norway and the Republic of Palau," the tourism statement said. "Our market is the entire globe." Iceland's Statistics Agency says tourism accounts for 8.6 percent of Iceland's economic production. In 2016, tourism produced

more revenue than Iceland's fishing industry for the first time. Iceland has four harpoon-equipped vessels, owned by three shipping companies reported to be running them at a loss or small profit. Last year, the industry killed 5 minke whales and 145 fin whales, according to the Directorate of Fisheries. Since commercial whale hunting resumed in Iceland in 2006, whaling companies have never killed their full quota. As a result, it's considered unlikely that all 2,130 whales will be killed under this policy. The International Whaling Commission imposed a ban on commercial whaling in the 1980s due to dwindling stocks. Japan in December said it was pulling out of the IWC due to its disagreement with that policy. Iceland is still a member of the IWC. □



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# Sedaris, Rankine among new arts academy inductees

**NEW YORK (AP)** — David Sedaris, one of the new class of inductees into the American Academy of Arts and Letters, has a story to tell.

"The academy sent a letter to my house in West Sussex (England), and we hadn't been out there because we didn't have any heat. When we finally saw the letter it was kind of moldering," the author and humorist told The Associated Press during a recent telephone interview.

"I sat at my desk and I said, 'Oh my God' over and over again, until my boyfriend (painter Hugh Mamrick) came upstairs and said, 'Are you OK?' I don't think he had ever heard me say 'Oh my God' that way."

His membership safely confirmed, Sedaris joins an elite group which over the past century and a half has included Langston Hughes, Georgia O'Keeffe and John Updike. This year, the academy voted in 11 new members, among them the multimedia artist Meredith Monk, poet-playwright Claudia Rankine, poet-



This combination of photos shows, Pulitzer prize-winning author Edward P. Jones, U.S. Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey, author Suzan-Lori Parks, composer, singer, and performer Meredith Monk and poet-playwright Claudia Rankine, who are among the newest inductees into American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Associated Press

essayist Grace Schulman, author-essayist Ian Frazier, author-conservationist Terry Tempest Williams and violinist-composer Chen Yi.

Others include four Pulitzer Prize winners from a variety of fields: playwright Suzan-Lori Parks, fiction writer Edward P. Jones, historian Stacy Schiff and poet Natasha Trethewey.

"It's humbling to be included among this distinguished group, many of whom are the artists and writers whose work has inspired and instructed me over the years," Trethewey wrote in an email to the AP.

The academy also voted in five honorary foreign members: the Canadian-born British novelist Rachel Cusk, Cuban composer Leo Brouwer, Polish poet Adam Zagajewski, Irish architect Sheila O'Donnell and Brazilian photographer Sebastiao Salgado.

An honor society founded in 1898, the academy has 240 core members, in the categories of books, music and art. New artists are voted in after previous ones die, with those dying over the past year including Philip Roth, Donald Hall and Ursula K. Le Guin.

New members will formally join in May, at a ceremony held at the academy's complex in upper Manhattan, where composer David Del Tredici will give the keynote address. The academy will also hand out literary medals, and Rankine, Yi and Sedaris are among those who have been awarded in the past. Sedaris was honored last year with a Medal for Spoken Language. He remembers the pre-ceremony luncheon, and his awe at being seated with authors Calvin Trillin, Ann Patchett and Mary Gaitskill. As he of-

ten does, Sedaris finds himself thinking of his family, wondering how his 95-year-old father might respond to Tuesday's news. He imagines his father's long digression about a distant acquaintance who went into real estate and also became a writer.

"Anyway," his father would say, "She just self-published a book, so why do you get into the academy and she doesn't?" "She self-published one book," Sedaris would reply. "That doesn't mean she gets into the academy." "Ah, baloney, they let you in." □

# Emma Thompson to Skydance: I won't work with John Lasseter

By JAKE COYLE  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — In a letter to Skydance Media, Emma Thompson outlined why she refused to work with the former Pixar executive John Lasseter and was withdrawing from the animated film "Luck."

Thompson departed the project last month shortly after Skydance chief executive David Ellison hired Lasseter, the Pixar co-founder and former Walt Disney Co. animation chief. Lasseter last year was forced out at Disney after acknowledging "missteps" in his behavior with female employees. In her letter to Ellison, Thompson said she felt it was "very odd to me that you and your company would consider hiring someone with Mr. Lasseter's pattern of misconduct given the present climate."

"If a man has been touch-



In this March 28, 2018 file photo, Emma Thompson appears at a screening of "King Lear" in central London.

Associated Press

ing women inappropriately for decades, why would a woman want to work for him if the only reason he's not touching them inappropriately now is that it says in his contract that he must behave 'professionally'?" wrote Thompson. "If a man has made women at his companies feel under-

valued and disrespected for decades, why should the women at his new company think that any respect he shows them is anything other than an act that he's required to perform by his coach, his therapist and his employment agreement?" A representative for Thompson confirmed the letter

Tuesday, which was first published in The Los Angeles Times. A spokesperson for Skydance declined to comment.

Lasseter's hiring provoked a backlash from some who said the animation executive didn't deserve a second chance so quickly. Time's Up, the nonprofit organization formed to combat sexual harassment and gender inequality in Hollywood and elsewhere, said his hiring "endorses and perpetuates a broken system that allows powerful men to act without consequence."

Shortly after allegations were made against Harvey Weinstein in fall 2017, Lasseter announced that he was taking a six-month "sabbatical" from Disney and apologized "to anyone who has ever been on the receiving end of an unwanted hug" or any other gesture

that made them feel "disrespected or uncomfortable." Lasseter initially said he would return to Disney, but the studio said it was permanently cutting ties last June.

At the time of his hiring, Lasseter, a creative force involved in every Pixar release and numerous Disney hits, said he had spent the last year in "deep reflection, learning how my actions unintentionally made colleagues uncomfortable, which I deeply regret and apologize for."

Ellison, the 36-year-old son of Oracle billionaire Larry Ellison whose production company has been behind "Mission: Impossible" and "Star Trek" films, said in a memo to staff that he didn't take the decision to hire Lasseter lightly and said Lasseter has been "forthright in taking ownership of his behavior." □



# 'The Wedding Guest' is a quirky but thin rom-com

By MARK KENNEDY  
Associated Press

No one going to see "The Wedding Guest" should expect a typical rom-com. The always-likable Dev Patel does star in it as a hunky guy who travels to a wedding party but he's not been invited and he really ruins the wedding. That's because he's brought along not a tasteful 10-piece bakeware set as a gift for the happy couple but duct tape, fake passports, some guns and zip ties. His hope is to put the bride in his trunk. Michael Winterbottom, the director of "24 Hour Party People" and "A Mighty Heart," has channeled Quentin Tarantino for his latest, a sparse and often quiet love story set against some of the most crowded spots in Pakistan and India. The poster for the film is a little misleading, with Patel in full menacing mode beside an ominous looking fire (look close: Is that a body?). There is violence onscreen, but this is not "Reservoir Dogs." The trailer also pumps up the thriller



This image released by IFC Films shows Dev Patel in a scene from "The Wedding Guest." Associated Press

aspect of the film but it's much slower than that. "The Wedding Guest" has actually got a thin story, but one saved by great acting and electric footage, from the rooftops in Amritsar to the crowded streets of Jaipur, as our heroine and hero travel through India,

which we are told is "the perfect place to get lost." Patel ("Slumdog Millionaire" and "Lion") plays a mysterious guy named Jay who goes to Pakistan from the United Kingdom to kidnap bride-to-be Samira (a riveting Radhika Apte). But things don't go accord-

ing to plan and the kidnapping plot quickly unravels, forcing Jay and Samira, now weirdly teammates, to scramble. Will they become something more than captive and mercenary? Will her family and the police catch up to them? Winterbottom's script is

maddeningly thin on backstory or any revealing dialogue. We never learn why Jay is so proficient with weapons and SIM cards or what he thinks about really anything. We never learn much about Samira, either, or plumb the depths of her unhappiness. Winterbottom seems to want us to see them just as they are now, rushing from Mumbai to Delhi to Goa, taking cars, trains, mopeds and buses. Many scenes are silent or contain just a few words. ("We have to go," is barked multiple times.) It is a film that requires careful watching to try to unlock the body language and determine if there is a double-cross or a romance brewing. Patel and Apte have a slow-burning chemistry. Their characters didn't exactly meet-cute — remember the zip ties and duct tape? — and rushing from hotel room to bus stations isn't exactly conducive to emotional connection. Above all, they are smooth, cool, resourceful and unruffled. □

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SAT 2:40 | 5:15 | 7:50 | 10:25  
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SAT 1:55 | 4:25 | 9:30 | 12:00  
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## Frederick Douglass biography among Lukas prize nominees



In this Sept. 5, 2018, photo, journalist Sarah Smarsh speaks during interview at the Bartlett Arboretum in Belle Plaine, Kan.

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — David W. Blight's biography of Frederick Douglass and Sarah Smarsh's "Heartland" are among the nominees for awards celebrating nonfiction books of social consciousness and literary

merit. On Tuesday, the Columbia Journalism School and the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University announced shortlists for the J. Anthony Lukas Work-in-Progress Awards,

the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize and the Mark Lynton History Prize. Smarsh is a finalist for the Lukas Book Prize and Blight for the Lynton History Prize, each worth \$10,000. The work-in-progress prize, for a book still being written, awards \$25,000 apiece to two authors. Other Lukas book prize nominees are Shane Bauer's "American Prison," Howard Blum's "In the Enemy's House," Lauren Hilgers' "Patriot Number One" and Chris McGreal's "American Overdose." Winners will be announced March 20. The Lukas awards, established in 1998, are named for the late author and investigative journalist. The Lynton prize is named for the late businessman and refugee from Nazi Germany. □



# Peter Tork, Monkees' lovable bass-guitar player, dead at 77

By JOHN ROGERS

Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Peter Tork, a talented singer-songwriter and instrumentalist whose musical skills were often overshadowed by his role as the goofy, lovable bass guitarist in the made-for-television rock band The Monkees, has died at age 77.

Tork's son Ivan Iannoli told The Associated Press his father died Thursday morning at the family home in Connecticut of complications from adenoid cystic carcinoma, a rare cancer of the salivary glands. He had battled the disease since 2009.

"Peter's energy, intelligence, silliness, and curiosity were traits that for decades brought laughter and enjoyment to millions, including those of us closest to him," his son said in a statement. "Those traits also equipped him well to take on cancer, a condition he met like everything else in his life, with unwavering humor and courage."

Tork, who was often hailed by the other Monkees as the band's best musician, had studied music since childhood. He was accomplished on guitar, bass guitar, keyboards, banjo and other instruments. Michael Nesmith, the Monkees' lead guitarist, said Tork was the better of the two. Tork said



This June 4, 1967 file photo shows, from left, Mike Nesmith, Davy Jones, Peter Tork, and Micky Dolenz of The Monkees posing with their Emmy award for best comedy series at the 19th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

he played bass because none of the others wanted to.

He had been playing in small clubs in Los Angeles when a friend and fellow musician, Steven Stills, told him TV casting directors were looking for "four insane boys" to play members of a struggling rock band.

Stills, a member of the legendary rock bands Buffalo

Springfield and Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, reportedly told Tork he'd auditioned and was rejected because his teeth were ugly. He thought the handsome Tork might fare better.

When the show debuted in September 1966 Tork and fellow band members Nesmith, Micky Dolenz and David Jones became overnight teen idols.

Nesmith was the serious Monkee, Jones was the cute one and Dolenz the zany one.

Tork said he adopted his "dummy" persona from the way he'd get audiences at Greenwich Village folk clubs to engage with him in the early 1960s.

He knew only one member of the Monkees before the show's debut, Nesmith who had been running "Hoot

Nights" at the Troubadour nightclub in Los Angeles where Tork would occasionally perform.

"As I write this my tears are awash, and my heart is broken," Nesmith posted on his Facebook page Thursday. "I have said this before -- and now it seems even more apt -- the reason we called it a band is because it was where we all went to play."

During its two-year run the show would win an Emmy for outstanding comedy series and the group itself would land seven songs in Billboard's Top 10. Three, "I'm a Believer," "Daydream Believer" and "Last Train to Clarksville," would reach No. 1.

Initially, the Monkees was a band whose members didn't play their instruments or write many of their songs. That was something that infuriated both Tork and Nesmith. In later years, Tork would tell of going to an early recording session, only to be told dismissively that he wasn't needed, that session musicians were laying down the musical tracks and all the Monkees were needed for was the vocals. "I was a hired hand, and I didn't quite know that, and I didn't quite get it," he told The Associated Press in 2000. "I had fantasies of being more important than it turns out I was." □

# Sequel to Michael Crichton's 'Andromeda Strain' due in fall

By HILLEL ITALIE

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The late Michael Crichton's literary archive and production company has authorized a sequel to his breakthrough novel "The Andromeda Strain."

HarperCollins Publishers announced Tuesday that "The Andromeda Evolution" will come out Nov. 12. The book will be a collaboration between science fiction author Daniel H. Wilson and CrichtonSun LLC., for which the author's widow, Sherri Crichton, serves as CEO.

Its publication marks the 50th anniversary of "The

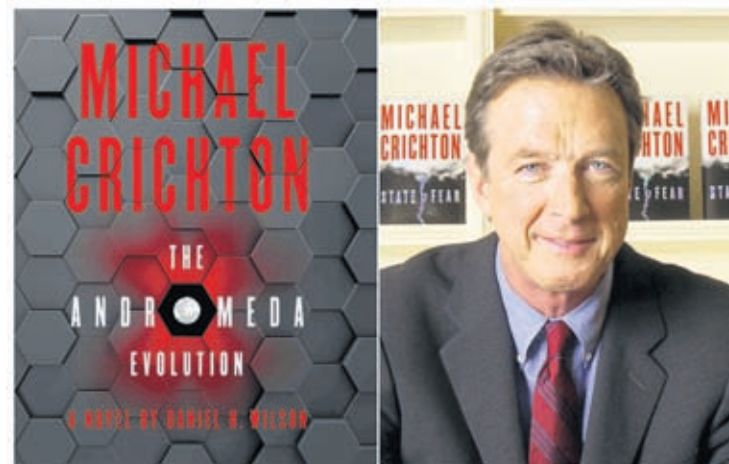
Andromeda Strain," Crichton's techno-thriller about scientists fighting a lethal extraterrestrial microorganism. Released when Crichton was just 27, it was later adapted into a feature film and television miniseries, with Ridley Scott among the producers.

"It's exciting to be shining a spotlight on the world that Michael so brilliantly created and to collaborate with Daniel Wilson," Sherri Crichton said in a statement. "This novel is for Crichton fans; it's a celebration of Michael's universe and a way to introduce him to new generations, and to those discovering his worlds

for the first time."

Michael Crichton, who died in 2008, is also known for such blockbusters as "Jurassic Park" and "The Terminal Man." Wilson's novels include "Robopocalypse" and the sequel "Robogenesis." "As a lifelong fan of Michael Crichton, it's been an unbelievable honor to revisit the iconic world that he created and to continue this adventure," Wilson said in a statement.

"The Andromeda Evolution" is not the first posthumous Crichton project. In 2011, "The Hot Zone" author Richard Preston completed a novel Crichton had been working on at the time of his



This combination of photos shows a cover image for the upcoming Harper release, "The Andromeda Evolution," by Michael Crichton and Daniel H. Wilson, left, and a portrait of the late Michael Crichton in New York on Nov. 4, 2008.

Associated Press

death, "Micro." Crichton's "Pirate Latitudes" came out in 2009, and "Dragon Teeth" in 2017. □



# Cyclorama to be unveiled again amid diverging views of past

By **JEFF MARTIN**  
Associated Press

**ATLANTA (AP)** — At a time when counties, cities and states across the South are removing or covering up Confederate monuments, one of the world's largest paintings of the American Civil War will reopen to the public Friday.

But the artwork was never intended to celebrate the Confederacy, historians say.

Atlanta's Cyclorama depicts charging horses, wounded soldiers, cannon blasts and smoke on a Civil War battlefield in Atlanta as Union troops defeated Confederate forces and then torched much of the city.

The painting also takes viewers into another, more personal battlefield in the mind's eye, this one involving memory, facts, fiction, propaganda and romanticized portrayals of history, historians say.

The German immigrants who painted it at the American Panorama Company in Milwaukee were creating the work for a northern audience to celebrate a northern victory in the Battle of Atlanta.

"So when people are concerned about Confederate monuments — those who want to hug them and those who want to tear them down — they're both going to be surprised to find out it's not one," said Sheffield Hale, president and CEO of the Atlanta History Center. "And that's when you have the opportunity for insight and learning."



In this Friday, Feb 15, 2019 photo, a worker puts some final touches on the diorama that is part of the Atlanta Cyclorama display at the Atlanta History Center on Friday, Feb 15, 2019, in Atlanta.

Associated Press

## DIVERGING VIEWS OF HISTORY

The painting was created about 22 years after the Battle of Atlanta had occurred in 1864. It debuted in Minneapolis in 1886.

When the artwork was relocated to Atlanta in 1892, Confederate sympathizers focused on the valor and bravery displayed by their side, said Gordon Jones, senior military curator at the history center. It was advertised in Atlanta as "the only Confederate victory ever painted."

"It's one of the greatest pieces of spin that's ever been put on an artifact," Jones said.

Though the painting depicts a northern victory, southerners saw in the painting an Atlanta rising like the mythical phoenix —

the symbol still used on police cars and city buildings today.

"The more you learn about this painting, the more remarkable is the story," Jones said. "And the story is definitely one of an artifact that changes meaning over time, depending on how you look at it."

**IMAX MOVIES OF THEIR DAY** Before Hollywood movies, cycloramas such as the "Battle of Atlanta" were considered the virtual reality of their day.

"It's intended to surround you, to be this sort of virtual reality time machine," Jones said.

After they were painted in cities such as Milwaukee and Chicago, cycloramas were rolled up and hauled by train around the country. People in various cities then paid admission to walk into specially built round buildings to view them.

The Atlanta History Center built the massive Lloyd and Mary Ann Whitaker Cyclorama Building to display the painting. Inside is a 15-foot (4.6-meter) platform, allowing visitors to view the horizon at eye level, with a massive blue sky above and the battle unfolding beneath them. A canopy covers the observation platform, much like canopies were used in the 19th century displays.

"We have returned the

painting to its original intent in 1886, and it was intended as an illusion, it was intended as mass entertainment," Jones said. "Nobody has seen this painting the way it was originally intended to be seen in 1886."

## ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST PAINTINGS

The 360-degree painting is longer than a football field at 371 feet (113 meters); and is nearly 50 feet (15 meters) high. It weighs 10,000 pounds (4,500 kilograms).

When it goes on display again Friday, "The Battle of Atlanta" will join only a handful of giant cycloramas remaining worldwide. Another notable U.S. cyclorama, "The Battle of Gettysburg," can be viewed at the Gettysburg National

Military Park in Pennsylvania.

## THE IMMIGRANT ARTISTS

Among the exhibits opening Friday is one about the immigrant painters — mostly German — who battled sea sickness on the steamship that brought them to New York.

To make their scenes as authentic as possible, some of the painters visited battlefields and met with Civil War soldiers in retirement homes before creating their cycloramas in Milwaukee.

Michael Kutzer, a painter and historian who speaks German, has been working in Wisconsin to decipher the hand-written diaries of artist Friedrich Wilhelm Heine, who supervised the cyclorama painters in Milwaukee. That has helped shed light on who they were and their impressions of the United States after arriving from Europe.

## THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The new exhibit opening Friday also includes early sketches of cycloramas, advertisements, and audio of the tours given from earlier eras. Military artifacts include a wooden chest used by Union General James McPherson, who died in the Battle of Atlanta.

Actors who play characters from history will also provide context, Hale said. They include Paul Atkinson, the Georgia entertainment promoter who brought the painting to Atlanta, who explains how he interpreted the artwork for southern audiences. □



In this Friday, Feb 15, 2019 photo, The Atlanta Cyclorama, an enormous painting more than 100 years old, is seen at the Atlanta History Center on Friday, Feb 15, 2019, in Atlanta.

Associated Press



In this Friday, Feb 15, 2019 photo, Gordon Jones, senior military curator for the Atlanta History Center, looks around at the Atlanta Cyclorama, an enormous painting more than 100 years old, in Atlanta.

Associated Press